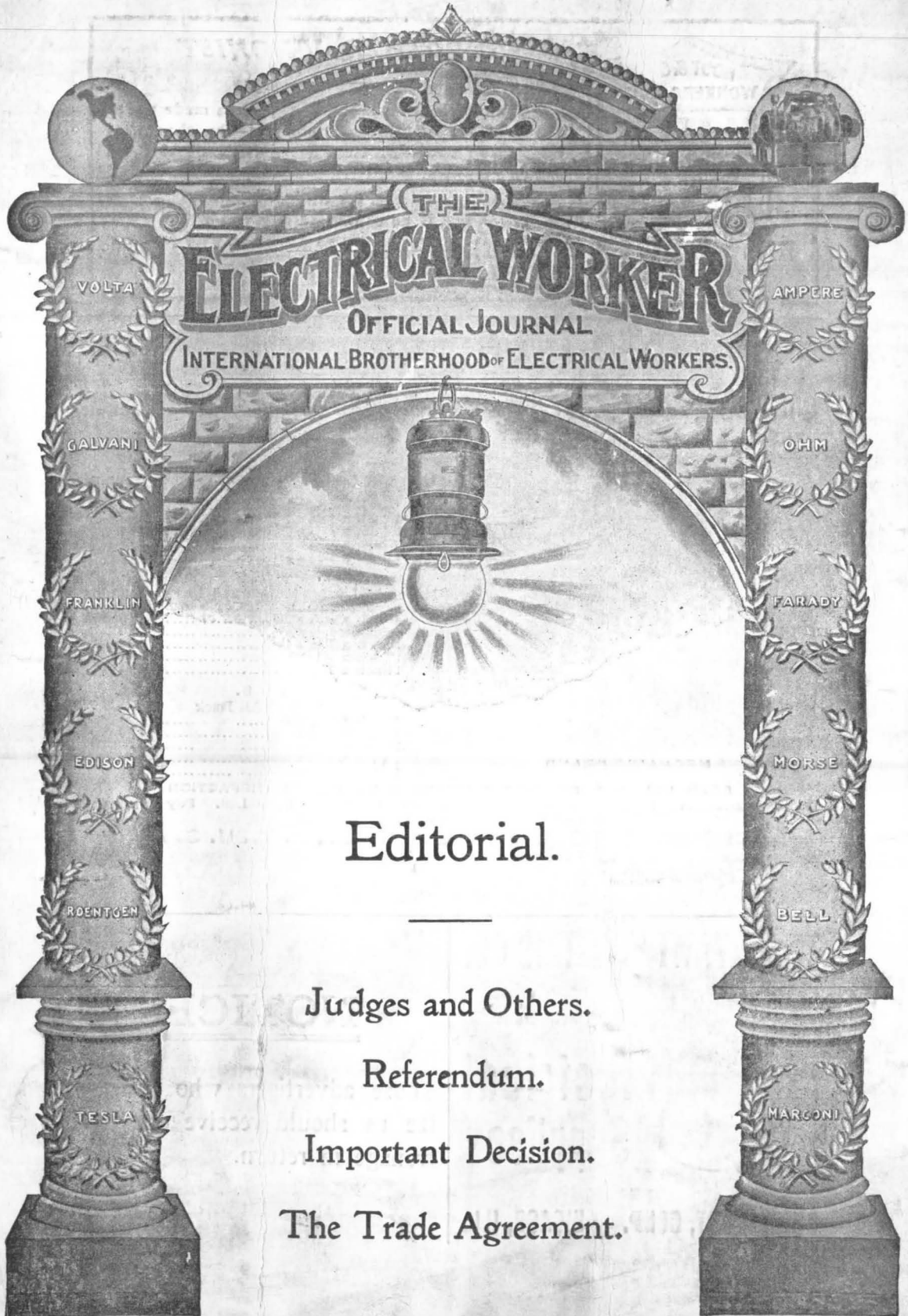


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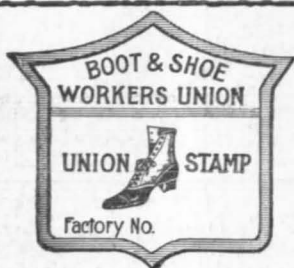
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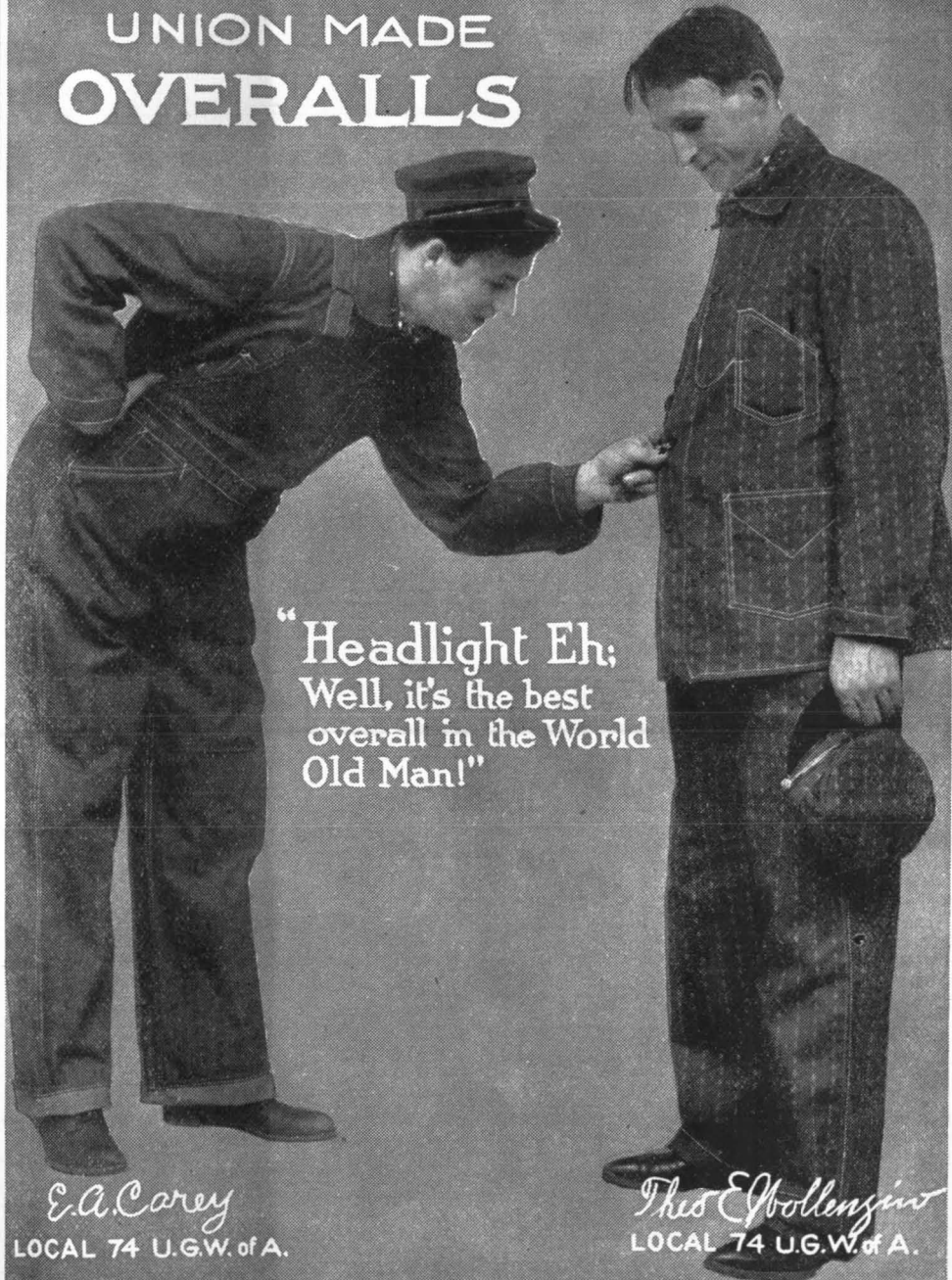
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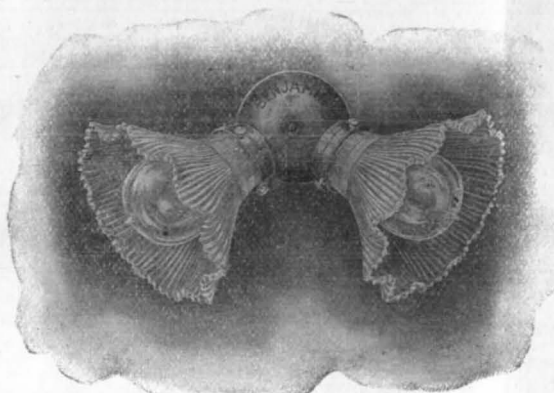
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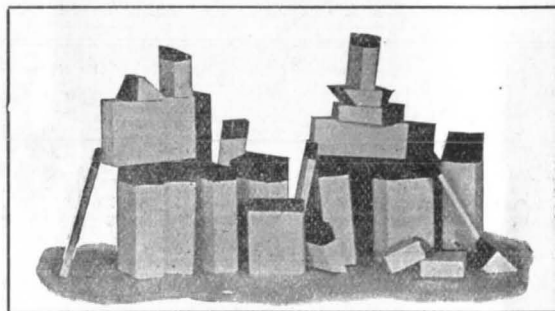
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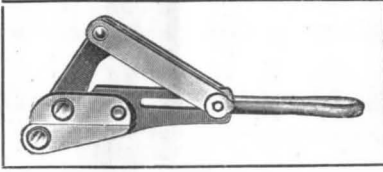
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THE ELECTRICAL



WORKER

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

of the

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

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THE TRADE AGREEMENT.

It is the Most Equitable Method of Adjusting Trade Disputes.

BY W. F. COAKLEY.

INDUSTRIAL peace in anything like an absolute sense, needless to say, would be an utopian dream. Industrial peace does not mean the substitution of ox-like dumb submission to conditions that call for betterment, but rather does it mean a consideration of methods whereby those differences that must inevitably arise in the relation of employer and employe may be equitably and peacefully adjusted. Trade unionists, no less than employers, have come to realize that the cost of strikes and lockouts, not only to the parties immediately involved, but also to the unprotected public, means a waste of the nation's wealth; also that such unreason and strife afford welcome opportunity to those doctrines who from press and platform preach labor and capital are and must be enemies.

In this enlightened age, war between labor and capital is no less unholy than war between nations. That this truth is forcing recognition I shall in the few moments at my disposal point out to you several unmistakable signs. Here and there strikes and lockouts do occur, and are made much of by the newspapers; but it is no less true that there is at work a powerful influence for a more rational and more equitable method of adjusting the disputes from which these industrial phenomena arise. The strike and the lockout are being discarded for the trade agreement, that most modern of methods for determining the conditions upon which labor may be bought and sold. Not including the agreement entered into in January at Chicago between the locomotive engineers and the principal railroads of the West, and that equally important agreement effected in Chicago some time ago between the companies and their train-service employes. During the past year trade agreements covering, periods varying from one to three years, have been drawn up between leading railroad systems and the machinists, molders, boiler makers, blacksmiths, pattern makers and

other divisions of their employes. And but a few months ago the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad signed an agreement with its conductors, trainmen and yardmen; that great organization of workmen, the longshoremen has made an agreement with the employers; and in most cities throughout the country the street railway employes have entered into similar contracts with the companies that employ them. That large concern, the International Paper Company, and the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers have signed an agreement covering all its mills.

This is but a small fraction of a number of such agreements that have been signed during this period of time. In the great building industry of New York City trade agreements are general; indeed, there are but two or three trades without them. Not only are the many branches of this important local industry governed by trade agreements, but those several agreements are made conformably to a general agreement, one covering the industry as a whole. This general agreement, called the Plan of General Arbitration, through the court of arbitration it has established, has put practically a stop to the strikes and lockouts, in the local building industry, which for years has been its chief drawback.

To say that trade agreements are sometimes broken is to offer no argument against the principle of these contracts. Where is that divinely guarded contract that has not been broken? Men in whatever their relations are limited by their very nature. Employers sometimes break contracts, but I will say that where a violation of contract upon the part of a trade union is pointed out it can be shown that trade unions have been faithful to agreements made with employers even when this honorable course has mightily conflicted with their material interests. Recall the great anthracite strike of four years ago. When the

prospect seemed blackest for John Mitchell's men, and when it was apparent that they could win only by calling out the bituminous miners, what did they do? Although engaged in a life and death struggle, reduced to the necessity of depending upon the pennies of their

brother trade unionists wherewith to buy bread for their women and children, they said: "No. Our brothers in the bituminous fields have agreements with the employers. We shall not ask them to join us. Rather than win with dishonor we will fall like honorable men."

INJUNCTIONS.

WHEN this country was an aggregation of English colonies both the common law and the law of equity of England was in force. The common law of England was a precious heritage of Englishmen, but as it was not so full and complete as to meet all the cases which arose between Englishmen, the law of equity was established to meet those cases for which under the common law there was no provision.

The law of equity was limited to cases involving property rights for which there was no remedy under the common law. If a case did not involve property rights the law of equity provided no remedy; or if property rights were involved in a case and there was a remedy under the common law, the law of equity could not be invoked to decide it.

Of course there was in force in this country, after the War of the Revolution, only the same body of the law of equity which existed before the Fourth of July, 1776, and power given to courts of equity by Parliament, or any decisions extending the law of equity or defining it by the English courts, could not apply to cases under it in the United States. The law of equity then in force and such statutory enactments as have amended it or limited or extending the law of equity or defining it by the English courts, could not apply to cases under it in the United States. The law of equity then in force and such statutory enactments as have amended it or limited or extended the jurisdiction of courts of equity, are the only sources of authority for such courts in the United States.

The jurisdiction of courts of equity—withstanding these rules and controlling them—has been greatly extended by the rulings of such courts themselves. It is plain to every one that courts cannot make laws; they can only construe them. And if courts of equity have increased their jurisdiction by construing the laws, it is also plain that they have usurped power and authority which they did not have when this country severed its political connection with England, and which the statutes have not given them. They have usurped power, and judicial usurpation of power is the most dangerous of all usurpations.

If the president usurps power not given him by the constitution there are remedies. He may be impeached by Congress, and if he is not, a new president may be elected who will undo the injury his usurpation has caused. If Congress is guilty of usurping power not given it by the constitution, in two years it will have to be re-elected and new men may be sent to that body who will undo their work. If either the president or Congress usurps power not given them by the constitution the courts may set aside their acts. But if the courts usurp authority or jurisdiction not given them by the constitution, where is the remedy? The federal judges are appointed during good behavior and they cannot be reached except by impeachment by Congress. In a few cases presidents have not enforced the decisions of the courts, they claiming they were judges of their powers under the constitution as well as the courts. But it is so difficult to reach a United States court, especially when one enlarges its equitable jurisdiction, that there is practically no remedy for such usurpations, except in the resistance of the states in their sovereign capacity and the awakened resentment of the people.

Another great difficulty is that our country has been governed by lawyers from the very beginning. John Randolph pointed out this danger to our institutions, and so did Thomas Jefferson. If courts enlarge their jurisdiction it is lawyers that act as judges, and a sufficient number of lawyers will sustain the court in extending its jurisdiction. In fact, lawyers now sustain those usurpations, and they have become embodied in the text books which students of the law use to acquire their knowledge of law. Many lawyers who have sought to limit the powers of courts of equity in labor disputes, instead of attacking the jurisdiction of the courts as they might do, sustain that usurped jurisdiction and endeavor to reach their end by questions of property right.

Courts of equity never had jurisdiction in criminal matters, yet they have made crimes of acts which never were and never will be crimes. They have enjoined free persons from passing along

certain highways open to all and probably punished any who obeyed their injunctions. They have enjoined persons from committing criminal acts for which, upon conviction, the law courts would punish them if found guilty of their violation under the common law or under statutes of the land. Yet when it has been attempted to remedy such usurpations the lawyers in Congress and in the legislatures have not permitted the enactments of statutes that would prevent such unjust usurpations in the future. Lawyers with great reputation and learning have indorsed such usurpations by not using their learning and ability to undo them, or at least prevent the courts from attempting like usurpations in the future.

Great lawyers in the interests of corporations have held that Congress had no power to limit the jurisdiction of the courts in equity cases. The Supreme Court of the United States is made the judicial branch of the government by the constitution, but its powers and jurisdiction are defined by the constitution in plain language; but that court could not be organized until Congress acted, and should Congress repeal the laws organizing it there would be no Supreme Court. Congress has limited the jurisdiction of that court in several ways, and in creating other courts Congress has limited or fixed their jurisdiction and shown its control over such courts at almost every session.

Government in the United States is not something above and apart from the people. It is a creation by the people for their happiness and well-being, and the judicial branch of the government should represent them as well as the

legislative or executive branch. If either of these branches exceed their jurisdiction they should be amenable to the people, and free government cannot exist unless this is the case. The people express their will in their constitutions; they grant their power to their governments by these constitutions, and when any part of their governments usurp powers not granted to them a free people will soon call them to account.

In striving to obtain their equality as men laboring people have had to wage continual war for some 600 years. In the beginning of this strife they were serfs and slaves. They have broken down barrier after barrier which had been raised against them, only to find other barriers erected just beyond. Law and lawyers and judges have almost universally been against them. The law of conspiracy which was passed in England nearly 300 years before was resuscitated to punish them in their strivings for better conditions in the last century. They have progressed notwithstanding all this great opposition, and their progress, though often interfered with, has been steady. But a condition now confronts them in this country which will require all their manhood and courage and all their ability to overcome. It is the opinion of many of their friends that they can only succeed by electing their fellows to office, to make their power felt in the governments of their states and country, so that no politician or judge or lawyer will ever again treat them as underlings. If they are content to be underlings they will always be underlings. If they are capable of greater things, as it is believed they are, let them show it now.—Fidelis in *A. N. Journal*.

WOES OF TELEPHONE LINEMAN.

He Was Ambitious, but Grew Dizzy and Fell Into the River.

"Nearly anyone can become a good telephone lineman after three or four years," said a Kansas City electrician. "A few men, though, never can learn the trade because they grow dizzy when they get to the top of a pole.

"Safety belts have been worn only about ten years. Just a little while before they came into use I had a man working with me who couldn't learn to control himself when on a pole. He could climb all right, but after he got there he couldn't do anything except to hang on so tight that he left his nail marks in the wood.

"One day we were working on a telephone line close to town and had a good-sized audience watching us. This would-

be lineman though he'd try to nail some brackets up about 20 feet from the ground. He put his ax in his mouth and shinned up the pole. Then he stopped. The natives came around to watch him and he did his best, but it was no use. There he stayed for a full minute and couldn't put his hands up to get the ax. So he came down again.

He tried one day to cross on a high truss we were wiring over the Missouri river. We told him he couldn't do it, but he went ahead, and, as usual lost control of himself and fell. When we pulled him out he had changed his mind about becoming a lineman. Later he went into the grocery business."—*Kansas City Star*.

THE OPPOSING FORCES

Reactionaries and Radicals Are Struggling Against Progress.

THE spectacle of reactionaries and radicals alike struggling against the forces of progress is not a new one. Nor is it so incongruous as it seems. The one would fain restore the old order of things and fortify what he deems his prerogatives. The other thrives on discontent and has no patience with solutions which disregard his own special and copyrighted panacea. But the reactionary and the radical are engaged in a futile struggle. They are not the men who make history. It is as fruitless to seek to impede the course of orderly evolution as it is to claim a far-reaching insight into the future and seek to twist the progress of the world to a visionary ideal.

The industrial world just now offers a case in point. On the one hand we find a certain group of manufacturing interests which has banded together for a fight to the finish with trade unions. It would smash them despite the fact that it loudly proclaims its friendship for the "good union." It says, "We believe labor has a right to organize; we believe that through organization labor has accomplished great good for itself, and, therefore, for the people, but"—then comes a string of "ifs" and "buts" that would eliminate every organization from consideration except those which are dead.

A recent attempt to form a "great federation of national employers' organizations" to bring about "industrial peace" was attended only by organizations which will have nothing to do with unions; in fact, several of them boast that they do not employ union men, when they know it, while one of them insists that every man before going to work for any member of that particular association of employers shall sign a paper resigning "without reservation" from his union, the resignation to take effect immediately, and in the circular letters sent out to the members of that employers' organization it boasts of the number of resignations it has thus compelled. This proposed Federation of Employers will not countenance in any way the making of trade agreements with organized labor. It would restore the old-time status of the individual labor contract, which was a one-sided affair dominated entirely by the employer.

On the other hand, we find an element among the laboring men of the country which, though organized in unions, is bitterly opposed to dealing in any man-

ner with employers. We refer to those groups which have been poisoned by the virus of socialism. They denounce trade agreements as "chains forged to fetter the workingman." The Industrial Workers of the world antagonize the American Federation of Labor and the railway brotherhoods on such issues. The Western Federation of Miners, allied with the Industrial Workers, in their recent convention, amended their constitution to prohibit the making of any further contracts with employers. In a speech in Chicago their prophet and martyr, Haywood, told his hearers: "If any of you have an agreement with any employer that compels you to work while the other fellows are out of work, break it. There never was an agreement that was so sacred as to compel one workingman to scab on another, and after you have broken that agreement, let me urge you men not to enter into another one."

We thus have a group of employers and a group of workers who unwittingly in one case and wittingly in the other are struggling to foment discontent. But these two forces, while radical and rabid in their respective attitudes, fortunately do not represent the great body of employers, on the one side, or the masses of workers, on the other. The American Federation of Labor and the great railway brotherhoods represent 95 per cent. of organized labor, and their attitude is voiced by Mr. John Mitchell in the following statement:

"I advocate not industrial revolution, but industrial progress. The deadening blight of socialism would wither progress. The virile, active forces of industry enlisted in the wage system under the form of capital and labor can be brought to work mightily, through sane and radical agreement, for that means the advancement of civilization and the lightening of the burdens that still oppress humanity. The socialists abhor all such progress and denounce every method that has been discovered, including the trade agreement, for its encouragement. That is why the socialists seek, either by assault or by 'boring from within,' to destroy or disintegrate our trade-union movement, because its aim and effect are the betterment of society as a whole. The instinct of individual self-improvement is the life blood of labor unionism. The control of all industry by the State, being against that instinct, could result only in either anarchy or despotism."

On the other hand, all the great rail-

way systems, the coal operators, the large building contractors, the great shipping interests that handle the iron, coal, grain, and lumber of the country, 95 per cent. of the daily newspapers of the country, the manufacturers of printing paper, stove manufacturers, the large breweries, and many other employing interests meet with the respective crafts represented in the labor organizations above referred to and form what are known as trade agreements, providing for the hours of work, prices and gen-

eral conditions of labor, with provisions for arbitration in case of disagreement.

The socialist unions and "smash-the-union" employers' organizations heartily agree on three propositions; first, they would like to prevent employers and employees entering into contractual relations; second, they would smash the American Federation of Labor and the railway brotherhoods; third, if they should succeed in the first two efforts, they would like to smash each other.—*Civic Federation Review*.

TRADE UNIONS A MIGHTY FORCE.

Written by John Mitchell for Boyce's Weekly.

I am a trade unionist. I am not one of those who believe that the trade union is the ultimate. I recognize the fact that there is a great evolutionary movement going on; that it is slowly but surely changing our social life. But, nevertheless, my experience has satisfied me that the trade union movement is the best movement ever born for the amelioration of the conditions of those who toil.

If I believed that the trade union movement stood for nothing else than securing a few cents higher wages or securing a few hours less labor I would leave it. If I thought that is all it does I would quit the trade union movement and I would try to start myself a new movement. But I believe it does more than that. I believe the trade union movement raises the standard of our citizenship; I believe it raises the manhood and the womanhood and the childhood of all our people. And any movement that elevates society, that elevates the manhood and womanhood of our people, contributes immeasurably to the welfare of our people and to the good of our country.

I am not an old man yet, but I have seen many practical results from the trade union movement. I have seen in my life thousands who employed labor and thousands who labor brought together and made to work in harmony.

I do not believe that in our country there should be an irreconcilable conflict between labor and capital. Notwithstanding the fact that I have gone through quite a number of strikes, I have not yet abandoned my opinion that if the representatives of labor can be brought together, if they can sit down in honest conference, if they will look one another straight in the eye and tell one another the absolutely truth, I believe when that is done that they day of conflict between labor and capital will end.

I have never been one to believe you

help labor by denouncing capital. I am one of those who believe that there is not one wrong that labor suffers which it did not bring on itself. I do not believe, either, that any of us are poor because we want to be poor. We are all poor because we can not get rich, or because we can not get rich honorably. I believe that if labor will do its own duty all the misery and all the suffering that labor has endured from the beginning of the world will end.

I believe it to be the duty of every man and every woman that works for a living, that works for wages, a salary, to join a trade union. And I believe the man or woman who works for wages that remains out of a trade union to be blind to their own interests. Not only that, but they are positively injuring the chances and the interests of their fellow-men and fellow-women. I believe that the trade unions stand for all that is good, for all that is best in our citizenship. If I thought the trade union movement depended on lawlessness for its success, if I believed strikes depended on lawlessness for their success, I would abandon the trade union movement. I do not believe that a strike was ever won because of violations of law. I do know that strikes have been lost because the laws were broken. I do know that every striker is injured if the law is broken.

In my judgment no great strike can ever succeed if the American people are opposed to it. I have an abiding faith in the people of our country. I believe the American people always try to be right. I believe that if they decide, if they conclude that a question is right, that a strike is right that the strike will win, and if they conclude the strike is wrong then the strike will not succeed. It pays to consult the wishes of the best people. It pays to be right and it does not pay to be wrong.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE BROTHERHOOD IN MASSACHUSETTS.

At the session of the State Council held at 987 Washington street, Boston, September 29th, 1907, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

That the President and Secretary-Treasurer draft and send to each Union in the State a circular letter and a referendum. In compliance with this resolution, we, the undersigned, forward the same for your action and trust that you may support the work of the State organization.

The trade in this State at present is not organized. We have not as large a per cent. of the men engaged in electrical work in our Unions as other building trades have. These crafts enjoy advantage which we do not and cannot expect to as long as the trade remains in the present unorganized condition. It is only by constant agitation which results in organization that improved conditions prevail in other building trades in Massachusetts.

Where union conditions exist it has been accomplished namely throughout the individual sacrifice and persistent work on the part of union men; at all times in all places they talk unionism with their associates. This work with the assistance of their officers makes it possible to present the demands of their class in a solid united body, as producers of all wealth to the employing class.

This class will employ the artisan at the least possible rate of wages and when a demand is made on the contractor for an increase rate of wages, this demand

must come from the united effort of the organization to insure its success. No such increase can be obtained by the individual.

The electrical workers must follow the other trade lines to accomplish the object sought, viz., increase rate of pay with a shorter work-day. There is no valid reason why we should not have more wages as mechanics engaged in a business, which, in many respects, is considered (and is, in fact) more dangerous than that of men who now receive a higher rate of wages than the electrician.

One never hears of waiters, carpenters or masons being electrocuted. This is a daily occurrence in our trade and in order to secure the conditions which other mechanics enjoy in the building trades, we must organize. Will you assist?

Attached is the referendum vote which all members are requested to act on, if a majority are in favor.

The State Council will meet to perfect the organization prior to the next meeting of the New England Federation held in Boston, on January 13 and 14, 1908.

N. B.—Return referendum vote to Chas. W. Hanscom, No. 3 Edwards street, Quincy, Mass. Give total membership of the Union and number of members voting.

Yours fraternally,

CHAS. W. HANSCOM,

Pres. State Council.

No. 3 Edwards St., Quincy, Mass.

S. A. STROUT,

Secretary-Treasurer.

419 Main St., Worcester, Mass.

TO ALL ORGANIZED LABOR, GREETING:

ALL thinking men inclined to fairness and justice realize the abuse of the injunction process as administered by judges in courts, and this, too, of the municipal, state, as well as the federal courts. All labor has been compelled to give this subject its deepest consideration and concern.

The conventions of the American Federation of Labor have frequently dealt with this subject and sought relief. The last convention of the A. F. of L., held in Minneapolis, Minn., unanimously adopted the following:

There is no tendency so dangerous to personal liberty, so destructive of free institutions and of a republican form of government as the present misuse and extension of the equity power through usurpation by the judiciary; and we therefore urge the speedy enactment of

the Pearre (anti-injunction) bill into law, and we further recommend that candidates, for legislative or judicial positions, be carefully investigated as to their past acts and interrogated as to their position on this matter before they be given any support, and that those, who from their actions or their expressions are deemed unsound, be, regardless of any other question, repudiated.

In view of elections being held in several parts of our country for both legislative and judicial offices, it is submitted that it is the duty of our fellow workers to take the initiative and necessary action as will carry the purpose of this unanimous expression of organized labor into effect.

Inclosed you will find copy of the Pearre bill upon which candidates for

judicial or legislative office should be pledged, repudiated, or opposed.

Sincerely hoping that prompt and effective action in the interest of labor and justice to all may be taken, we are,

Fraternally yours,

SAM'L GOMPERS, President.

Attest: FRANK MORRISON, Secretary.

JAMES DUNCAN,

First Vice-President.

JOHN MITCHELL,

Second Vice-President.

JAMES O'CONNELL,

Third Vice-President.

MAX MORRIS,

Fourth Vice-President.

D. A. HAYES,

Fifth Vice-President.

DANIEL J. KEEFE,

Sixth Vice-President.

WM. D. HUBER,

Seventh Vice-President.

JOS. F. VALENTINE,

Eighth Vice-President.

JOHN B. LENNON,

Treasurer.

Executive Council American Federation of Labor.

By order of the Minneapolis Convention of the A. F. of L.

A BILL

To regulate the issuance of restraining orders and injunctions and procedure thereon and to limit the meaning of "conspiracy" in certain cases.

Be it enacted, etc., That no restraining order or injunction shall be granted by any court of the State of _____, or a judge or the judges thereof, in any case between an employer and an employee, or between employers and employees, or between employees, or between persons employed to labor and persons seeking employment as laborers, or between persons seeking employment as laborers, or involving or growing out

of a dispute concerning terms or conditions of employment, unless necessary to prevent irreparable injury to property or to a property right of the party making the application, for which injury there is no adequate remedy at law, and such property or property right must be particularly described in the application, which must be in writing and sworn to by the applicant or by his, her, or its agent or attorney. And for the purposes of this Act no right to continue the relation of employer and employee or to assume or create such relation with any particular person or persons, or at all, or to carry on business of any particular kind, or at any particular place, or at all, shall be construed, held, considered, or treated as property or as constituting a property right.

Sec. 2. That in cases arising in the courts of the State of _____, or coming before said courts, or before any judge or the judges thereof, no agreement between two or more persons concerning the terms or conditions of employment of labor, or the assumption or creation or termination of any relation between employer and employee, or concerning any act or thing to be done or not to be done with reference to or involving or growing out of a labor dispute shall constitute a conspiracy or other criminal offense or be punished or prosecuted as such unless the act or thing agreed to be done or not to be done would be unlawful if done by a single individual, nor shall the entering into the carrying out of any such agreement be restrained or enjoined unless such act or thing agreed to be done would be subject to be restrained or enjoined under the provisions, limitations, and definition contained in the first section of this Act.

Sec. 3. That all Acts and parts of Acts in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

THIRTY BANKERS—NO PRINTERS.

The "Ohio Penitentiary News," for many years a famous and flourishing paper published by convicts, has suspended publication for the very good reason that there is not left in that big penal institution a single man who can handle type.

There is not a printer in the Ohio penitentiary. Bankers are there in plenty—more than thirty are there, and more are on the way. Several convict banks might be operated, with men to spare. Enough lawyers are there to take care of an enormous amount of legal business. Doctors, brokers and other "eminently respectable" citizens are not lacking. Business men, farmers, mechanics and representatives of almost

every other department of industrial activity are common there. But there is not one printer.

The fact throws new light on a character that has long been commonly misjudged. The printer today is a homeowner. He is of fixed employment, and is the head of a family. He is, and always was, far above the average man in information and in intelligence. All the notable events of human life pass through his hands and make impress on his brain. The fact that more than thirty bankers are in the Ohio penitentiary, and not one printer, tells of the relative honesty of the printer of today, and tells more. It tells us that the most common and most dangerous crimes of today are being committed not by the world's workers.

EDITORIAL.

PETER W. COLLINS.

JUDGES AND OTHERS.

"A Federal Judge indicted for manslaughter. Judge Peter S. Grosscup of the United States Circuit Court was today served with a warrant charging him with manslaughter which grew out of the action of the Mattoon Grand Jury."

This item appeared in the Chicago Daily Papers of October 31st and is a statement of fact.

There also appeared a statement by the President of the Chicago Bar Association declaring the indictment of this Federal Judge an outrage and in the words of the luminary of the legal Fraternity: "The action of the Grand Jury is a rank piece of *four flushing* and an outrage. Every lawyer knows there won't be a conviction of the Judge on the charge on which he is indicted." Whew!

The facts in the case are as follows:—An accident occurred on the line of the Mattoon and Charleston Interurban Railroad Company (of Illinois.) This accident which the grand jury determined was the cause of criminal negligence on the part of the directors of the road caused considerable loss of life. On the petition of directors the road to avoid damage suits asked for receivers for the road although it was solvent.

There are just two points that we will touch upon.

First:—The indictment of the Judge.

Second:—The attitude of the Bar Association.

We contend that if the facts warranted an indictment (and they apparently did) by the Grand Jury, then the Grand Jury was justified in returning an indictment whether it was a Federal Judge or an employee.

The action of the Chicago Bar Association in condemning the Grand Jury for doing its obvious duty, helps not a whit the indicted Judge, and brings discredit and ridicule upon the Association.

And why? For the very simple reason that those who know the law best should properly observe its provisions. The Grand Jury is an institution provided by law as a part of the machinery necessary to maintain the law, and the *abuse* of it by the Chicago Bar Association because it indicted a Federal Judge and *only because it indicted a Federal Judge* does not add to the prestige of the association in the eyes of *those who do observe the laws*, but who are not familiar with its narrow paths and numerous hiding places.

We don't recall the Bar Association ever having condemned a Grand Jury for not returning indictments against others than Federal Judges and we don't know whether the condemnation was occasioned by the fear that the Judiciary might lose prestige in the eyes of the people, but we believe that was *the* reason and we believe the fear justified. Certainly the people have had reasons

and many of them, and this last one is another straw on the camel's back. What a spectacle;

Federal Court Judges' heavily interested in railroads and insurance properties. Humphries of "Immunity Bath" fame drawing a salary as Federal Judge and also from Franklin Life Insurance Company as an officer of that concern, Grosscup, Federal Judge drawing salary from the people and financially interested in traction properties.

Surely the people are justified in their lack of confidence.

Ordinary mortals do not know *all* the law but they do *respect it*.

REFERENDUM. To avoid confusion in the consideration of the amendments submitted to Referendum by the Executive Board attention is hereby called to the fact that there are certain sections submitted, wherein it appears there is a possibility of misunderstanding. It is therefore advisable that each amendment be carefully read and compared with the Constitution so that intelligent action may be taken upon each section:

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 14, SECTION 5.

This amendment as submitted by the Executive Board reads:

Amend Article 14, Section 5, as follows:

After the word "dues" on the sixth line insert the words "less the p. c. for the life of his traveling card."

Amended Section 5, Article XIV to read as follows:

If a member has not been for three years in continuous good standing in the Brotherhood and the L. U. to which he applies for admission has a higher initiation fee than that paid by him when initiated he shall pay the difference before being admitted and given a working card. His dues (less the per capita for the life of his traveling card) shall begin on the 1st of the month following the acceptance of his card. The amount of dues paid by him in advance of this date shall be returned to him by his former L. U. less the per capita. No L. U. shall require a member to pay the difference in initiation at a greater rate than \$1.00 per day for each day he works. In no case shall a journeyman member who has been in continuous good standing for three years or more be required to take an examination or pay examination fee or any difference in initiation fee or any sum for a working card, *in L. U. of same jurisdiction.*) He shall upon the deposit of his traveling card in the Local Union be issued the necessary working card."

The words "in L. U. of some jurisdiction" on line 16 is not a part of Section 5, Article XIV of the Constitution and its insertion implies an amendment to that section. When the amendments were turned over to the G. S. by the E. B. to be printed and submitted, this line appeared as it appears on the referendum ballot. It appears however upon reading the minutes of the E. B. relative to this section that the amendment as it reads on ballot is intended as a substitute amendment for the present Section 5, Article 14.

The minutes of E. B. relative to amendments to Section 5, Article 14, appear on pages 13 and 14 of October WORKER.

Amendment marked on ballot as Section 4, Article 5 should be Section 1, Article 6.

Amendment marked Section 1, Article 6, should be Section 4, Article 5.

Amendment marked Section 21, Article XXVI, is intended as new section to this article and should be marked Section 10.

Amendment marked Section 1, Article XXIX should be Section 1, Article XXIV.

**IMPORTANT
DECISION.**

The decision (see page 20) of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the First District in the case of John D. Munroe v. the Fred T. Ley and Edison Electric Illuminating Co., of Boston, is an interesting document and one that should be read by every member of the I. B.

The following communication from the attorney for the plaintiff is an interesting commentary on the decision of the Court.

BOSTON, October 23, 1907.

PETER W. COLLINS, General Secretary,
Electrical Workers,
Pierik Building, Springfield, Ill.

DEAR SIR:—

Enclosed please find copy of the opinion in the case entitled John D. Munroe vs. Fred T. Ley & Company, and John D. Munroe vs. The Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Boston.

You will note we win the principle case against the Fred T. Ley & Company. The decision, however, in my opinion is extremely unsatisfactory as it does not discuss fully the question of the duty of inspection of the poles or the question of assumption of risk by linemen. However, you will note that it does say, on page three:—"Clearly Munroe was not at fault for not ascertaining that the pole was rotten. None of the cases cited are analogous for various reasons. The rottenness was concealed by a brick sidewalk. Under the general rule, as settled by the Supreme Court over and over again, a person *employed is not bound to use reasonable care to ascertain the safety of what belongs to his employer*, and is bound only *by what he "knows or ought to have known"*; and in the present case, there is no sufficient evidence showing that a different rule applies to linemen, etc."

It seems clearly to me that the Court had a splendid opportunity to discuss the rights of linemen and the liability of owners of poles which they have almost avoided entirely.

Yours truly,

George Holden Tinkham.

Mr. Tinkham is deserving of credit for the splendid fight he made in having the decision of the lower court reversed and his argument (which we hope to insert in a later issue) was a masterpiece of logic and law.

The oftener financial flurries occur the oftener are we brought to the realization that paper value is a poor standarization of the almighty dollar.

The fact of your speaking a good word for another should'nt deny you the right to speak one for yourself when you need it.

Wall Street has apparently taken a laxative, when it absolutely needs a purgative.

Measuring some men by their deeds does an injustice to many a good cause.

It is by far easier to convince ourselves we are right, than that we are wrong.

Making friends is an art that few attain without injuring their credit.

Give most attention to details that seem of least importance. It helps.

The good we do is often offset by the glamour that goes with it.

Don't apologize for doing your duty.

SPECIAL NOTICE—Returns on Referendum Ballot must be received at General Office on or before December 24, 1907.



Official Journal of the

INTERNATIONAL

Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Published Monthly.

PETER W. COLLINS, Editor.
Pierik Building, Springfield, Illinois.

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Subscription, \$1.00 per Year, in Advance.

As *The Electrical Worker* reaches the men who do the work and recommend or order the material, its value as an advertising medium can be readily appreciated.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., NOVEMBER, 1907.

Advertising rates may be secured by writing to the Editor.

This Journal will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

The first of each month is the closing date; all copy must be in our hands on or before.



Illinois State Journal Co., Springfield.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

So long as the right of free speech and free press obtains, we shall publish the truth in regard to all matters. If any person or association challenges the accuracy of any of our statements, we are willing to meet him or them in the courts and defend ourselves. So long as we do not print anything which is libelous or seditious, we propose to maintain our rights and exercise liberty of speech and the liberty of the press. If for any reason, at any time, the name of Buck's Stove and Range Company does not appear upon the "We Don't Patronize" list of the American Federationist (unless that company becomes fair in its dealings toward labor), all will understand that the right of free speech and free press is denied us; but even this will in no way deprive us or our fellow workmen and those who sympathize with our cause from exercising their lawful right and privilege of withholding their patronage from the Van Cleave company—the Buck's Stove and Range Company of St. Louis.

So far as we are personally and officially concerned we have fully stated our position in the American Federationist and elsewhere.

Do not fail to keep the Buck's Stove and Range Company of St. Louis in mind and remember that it is on the unfair list of organized labor of America.—Samuel Gompers.

NOTICE.

All brothers are requested to stay away from Kenosha, Wis., as the Electric Light Co. has all members of our newly organized local locked out for the purpose of putting us out of business before we get started, both linemen and wiremen, we have the support of the building trades and expect to win in the near future as we have them tied up at present time.

We will notify all locals through the Worker when this trouble is settled.

Fraternally yours,

Bert Bauchard, 215 Ashland Ave.
Kenosha, Wis.

The strike against the Philadelphia Bell Telephone Company and the Delaware & Atlantic Telephone Company has been called off by the referendum of six local unions concerned. The strike ended October 21st at 7 a. m. Traveling cards will not be received until the Constitutional period of ninety days has expired after October 21, 1907.

H. W. POTTER,
President D. C.

INFORMATION.

As Brother Sam Martin has mysteriously disappeared from here about Sept.

15th and not being heard from, it is thought that there has been foul play befell him. His card is No. 118129. If any Brother hears or knows of his whereabouts, kindly notify Local 398, St. Cloud, Minn., and the favor will be greatly appreciated.

I would like to know the whereabouts of our Brother splicers S. M. Dougherty and Gus Delotch. When last heard from, about a year ago, were with So. Bell Tel. in Alabama. If they should see notice please communicate with H. Pelikan, 210 Fourth Ave., Richmond Dist., San Francisco, Calif.

If Brother James McCarron sees this would like to hear from him. If any one knows the whereabouts of Brother Harry Haines, last heard from in Virginia, would like to hear from him. J. E. Burton, 325 North 52nd st.,

I would like for Brother Lamar Gresham, last heard of in Fort Worth, Texas, about a year ago, to write me at the address given below. Gus F. Erfurth, 1009 South Seventh street, Fort Smith, Ark.

Will Harry Lorimer please write me as I have several letters for you that may be of some importance. Also George Leister please write. W. Campbell, care Holmes House, Ottawa, Ill.

Wm. W. Davis, who worked in Chester, Pa., in 1901, and when last heard of was in Richmond, Va., kindly address an old friend. F. A. Weitzel, 2121 Lane St., Omaha, Neb.

Local Union No. 125 of Portland Ore., would like to know the whereabouts of Oliver Drew. He has a card in Seattle No. 77 and left there under peculiar circumstances.

If William S. Geggy should see this or any one who knows him please call his attention to it. Please write to J. C. Myers Y. M. C. A., McKees Rocks, Pa.

J. C. Hanley, card No. 75200 of Local No. 2, lost his due book. Any one finding same will please return to Harry Meyers, 928 North 17th street, St. Louis, Mo.

Al Ryan of No. 17, desires to hear from his brother Frank. Father is dead. Communicate with Frank Campbell, 734 Monroe Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Will Charles Cyr or any one knowing his whereabouts please write Henry Cyr, Pocatello, Idaho.

LOST.

Brother Jack Hanley lost due book out of Local Union No. 2, St. Louis, Mo., between Dallas and Sherman, Texas, on the night of October 15, on the Houston & Texas Central Railroad; also Eagle receipt book out of LaSalle, Ill. Finder will please return to Secretary of Local Union No. 272, of Sherman, Texas, and receive reward. R. S. Dougherty, 612 South Montgomery St., Sherman, Texas.

Lost, due book and card of F. W. Kerns, card No. 21763, initiated in 50 Belville, Ill., Dec. 1903, any one finding same return to H. J. Morrison, 1447 Hadamont Ave. St. Louis, Mo. and oblige, E. P. McBroom, Rec. Secy.
L. U. No. 1.

Card No. 133600 belonging to W. I. Shafer, initiated Nov. 6, 1907, has been lost; any one finding same please notify Frank Carmody, Rec. Sec. No. 6, 395 Franklin St., Greater San Francisco, Cal.

DECEASED MEMBERS.

Resolutions of condolence have been adopted by the several locals on the death of the following members:

Edward Larson, L. U. 31, Duluth, Minn.
Thomas Mahoney, L. U. 90, New Haven, Conn.

C. V. Stapleton, L. U. 69, Dallas, Texas.
James Herron, L. U. 192, Memphis, Tenn.

Harry Walters, L. U. 346, Ft. Smith, Ark.

Robert Schneider, L. U. 494, Milwaukee, Wis.

KEEP YOUR GRIT.

Hang on! Cling on! No matter what they say,

Push on! Sing on! Things will come your way.

Sitting down and whining never helps a bit;

Best way to get their is by keeping up your grit.

Don't give up hoping when the ship goes down;

Grab a spar or something—just refuse to drown.

Don't think you're dying just because you're hit;

Smile in the face of danger and hang to your grit.

Folks die too easy—they sort of fade away;

Make a little error, and give up in dismay.

Kind of man that's needed is the man of ready wit,

To laugh at pain and trouble and keep his grit.

—L. E. Thayer, in *Dallas Laborer*.

IMPORTANT DECISION.

OPINION DELIVERED BY JUSTICE PUTNAM.

The plaintiff in error in each case was the plaintiff below, so that there will be no confusion in describing the parties. In each there was a trial by jury, and the Circuit Court directed a verdict for the defendant, which was followed by a judgment accordingly; and the plaintiff took out these writs of error.

In the suit against Fred T. Ley & Company the facts as stated by the plaintiff were as follows:

"This is an action of tort brought by John D. Munroe, an alien, who while working at the top of an electric light pole was thrown to the ground by its breaking off a little below the surface of the ground. The declaration contained six counts, the first three at common law and the last three under the Employers Liability Act of Massachusetts.

The plaintiff was one of a gang of men, working under the directions of a foreman, which was engaged in removing the wires from a line of thirteen electric light poles about twelve years old. This work was being done preparatory to removing these poles, the system having been changed from an overhead to an underground one. Upon these poles were four heavy wires, and from them twelve similar wires had been removed within a year prior to the accident. The poles were set in a brick sidewalk, such as is common in the city of Boston, were square, painted, and about forty feet high. While at the top of one of these poles, the plaintiff was thrown to the ground by the pole snapping off a little below the surface. The defendant had never made a contract, written or verbal, with the linemen in its employ by which the latter were to undertake the duty of inspecting poles for interior defects, nor had it given its linemen any instructions to that effect, either written or verbal, nor was the plaintiff furnished with the necessary tools with which to inspect for interior defects. The plaintiff had never worked upon this line of poles; he was not informed of the age of the line, nor that twelve heavy wires had been removed from them within a comparatively short time before the accident. The poles and wires belonged to the Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Boston, and the defendant was doing the work of removal under a written contract with the latter company.

"On the morning of the accident the linemen, acting under a general order, were untying the wires from the tops of the poles. One of the linemen, Pring, not having his pliers, the tool used by

linemen to untie wires, was ordered by the foreman, McDonald, to cut the wires on the fourth pole, which he did. At the time the wires were cut at the fourth pole the wires on the fifth pole had been untied, and the plaintiff was on the top of the sixth pole and did not know of the cutting. Dorchester street, upon which the remaining seven poles were located, takes at this point where the sixth pole was located a sharp dip down hill. When the sixth pole snapped off it fell in the direction of the seventh and remaining poles."

In addition to the above it should be said that there was some evidence showing not only that MacDonald was giving orders to the men, but also one Leyden. It is claimed by the plaintiff that the fact that the pole was decayed was within the rules with reference to the duty to furnish safe conditions to work in; that the defect of rottenness might have been discovered by reasonable inspection; that it was the company's duty to inspect; that there was no assumption of risk on the part of the plaintiff; that there was error in the court's refusing to permit the plaintiff to show that there was a custom for linemen working under the circumstances shown by the case not to inspect poles for interior defects; that there was also error in the court's refusing to permit the plaintiff to testify that he relied on MacDonald or Leyden to inform him whether or not the line was an old line; and that there were other errors which have not been particularly brought to our attention. The view we take of the case, however, relieves us from the necessity of passing on any question, except the broad one that the court erred in directing the jury to return a verdict for the defendant, and on this solely with reference to the statutory topic of superintendence. We will direct that the judgment be reversed and a new trial had on only the counts which are based upon the statute which is found in Revised Laws of Massachusetts, Chap. 106, Sec. 71, as follows:

"If personal injury is caused to an employee, who, at the time of the injury, is in the exercise of due care, by reason of: * * *

Second, The negligence of a person in the service of the employer who was entrusted with and was exercising superintendence and whose sole and principal duty was that of superintendence, or in the absence of such superintendent, of a person acting as superintendent with the authority or consent of such employer."

Clearly Munroe was not at fault for not ascertaining that the pole was rotten. None of the cases cited are analogous for

various reasons. The rottenness was concealed by a brick sidewalk. Under the general rule, as settled by the Supreme Court over and over again, a person employed is not bound to use reasonable care to ascertain the safety of what belongs to his employer, and is bound only by what he "knows or ought to have known;" and, in the present case, there is no sufficient evidence showing that a different rule applies to linemen. Even if there were any evidence of value that generally linemen are expected to examine poles before climbing them to ascertain whether decayed or not, it would not apply to the present case, because, first, the linemen here were not furnished with tools to enable them to dig out the sidewalk around the poles, and second, the orders given them by Leyden and MacDonald prohibited them from doing anything of that nature. As soon as they were on the ground, the linemen were driven up the poles in haste, and under persistent orders, with oaths, to "hump themselves," so to speak. Therefore, the circumstances precluded any examination by them, whatever might have been the custom usually, and whatever the circumstances of the decisions cited by the defendant.

However, it seems to us to be of no consequence whether Munroe should have examined the condition of the pole as to rottenness or not, because its rottenness was not the *causa causans*. If the work had been done in a proper manner the accident would not have occurred. The plaintiff had a right to go to the jury on the proposition that the proper manner was, first of all, to have united all the wires. If this had been done the pole would have stood, so far as any evidence in the case shows otherwise. There were thirteen poles in all. Munroe was on the sixth pole; the poles from the sixth to the thirteenth were on a down-hill road, so that the tendency of seven poles was to pull the sixth pole towards them and down hill. The wire was cut on the fourth pole, and had been untied on the fifth pole, so there was nothing to hold the sixth pole, on which the plaintiff was, against the down-hill pull of poles seven to thirteen each inclusive. Therefore, as the record shows, when the sixth pole snapped off, it fell, and, as of course, in the direction of the seventh pole.

The plaintiff puts this proposition as follows: "The plaintiff contends that the manner in which the work was conducted by the foreman, MacDonald, was negligent, and the negligence brought about the injury to the plaintiff." He puts this at our bar in such a way as to preclude all other efficient causes, because he says: "This ordering of Pring to cut the wires on the fourth pole was the negligent act

of the superintendent which the plaintiff avers brought about his injury."

The main question in the case is whether MacDonald or Leyden was a person in the service of the Ley Company "entrusted with and exercising superintendence, and whose sole or principal duty was that of superintendent;" or, second, one who, in the absence of such superintendent, was a person "acting as superintendent with the authority or consent of such employer." These words of the statute seem to represent plain English, and so plain that they neither need, nor are capable of, categorical definition. So far as we have examined the Massachusetts cases, none of them undertakes to give such a definition. Many of them have been engaged in determining not whether under the circumstances of the case there was any person "exercising superintendence," but more particularly with reference to the questions arising from the use of the words "sole or principle." Some have stated certain inclusive rules, that is, rules which show that certain persons are within the statute; but none of them, as we have said, assumes to give a complete definition. For the reason we have stated, to do this is not practicable.

The facts of the present case are that no one undertakes to testify that either MacDonald or Leyden did any work with their hands. They were giving orders, and were engaged entirely in so doing, and nobody else was giving orders. An illustrative fact is that one witness states that MacDonald was standing on the ground doing nothing excepting giving orders. He did not see him climb any poles, and the witness took his orders from him, and the principal orders were directed to all the linemen. Another one testifies that MacDonald gave him orders, with an oath, to get up the pole and stop his "kidding," and that MacDonald "was in the gutter, looking out for the wires, and giving orders to the ground men in reference to them." Another testifies that he took orders as a lineman from Leyden and MacDonald; and another one that both MacDonald and Leyden "gave orders," and that MacDonald said: "Get your tools and strip that pole." The record is full of this kind of testimony. There is no question that either MacDonald or Leyden gave the order to cut the wire which resulted in Munroe's injury.

It seems plain, therefore, that the plaintiff had a right to go to the jury on the issue that MacDonald and Leyden, or one of them, had, so far as doing this particular work was concerned, full charge. They were doing it wholly in accordance with their own notions as to the method of doing it, subject, of course, as every person is who is placed in authority, to the usages and methods of doing work generally, or of doing the particular work

of the particular person or corporation whom they represent.

Looking at the various decisions of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, it seems to us that the observation of the judge at nisi prius in *Malcolm v. Fuller*, 152 Mass., 160, 163, was correct, as far as it went:

"A superintendent is a man having the control, with the power of authority. That is to say, when he speaks, the workmen are to obey, not because he advises them, or requests them, or hopes they will, but because, by virtue of his position, they have agreed to obey him. That is the nature of his authority."

Thus the question of "exercising superintendence" is one, not of the magnitude of the job, but of the nature and power of the person in charge thereof. One who is on the ground, dissevered from all other authority, and having full power at the time over the work to be done, even though only temporarily, may be "exercising superintendence." *McPhee v. Scully*, 163 Mass., 216, 127, 220. We have carefully examined a number of the decisions of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts with regard to this topic, and have selected here only the two which seem the most typical of the case before us. Taking together all those which we have examined, we find nothing therein which prevents our making such an application here of the statute in question as its plain English seems to require.

The record raises a question whether MacDonald or Leyden was superintending the work; and, so long as there is a question of that character, it, of course, follows that it is doubtful whether either one of them was. So, also, the case might easily have been made more definite and clear by a very few questions put to the witnesses; but we have here the fact that the plaintiff may well contend that MacDonald and Leyden, one or both of them, were in full charge of the job, giving orders to the men, and apparently "exercising superintendence." Whether one or both united therein may or may not prove of consequence, because the fault in the method of doing the work might have been the joint fault of both.

The result is that the evidence shows that the occasion of the injury to Munroe was the negligent method of doing the work; also there is enough in the record to entitle the plaintiff in the case against Fred T. Ley & Company to go to the jury under the provision of the statute which we have cited. Therefore the judgment there must be set aside, and a new trial ordered.

Coming now to the suit against the Edison Electric Illuminating Company, the record shows an agreement between the Ley Company and the Edison Company by virtue of which the Ley Company entered into a contract with the

Edison Company to become its general constructor and repairer, and to assume all risks. The nature of this contract was such that the Ley Company might be called on to take up the Edison Company's work whatever the condition of repair or safety might be. It is difficult to see how, under this contract, the Edison Company could be responsible to the Ley Company for the condition of its poles or anything else; and, if the Edison Company was under no obligation to the Ley Company, it is difficult to see how it could be under obligation to its employees. The plaintiff relies on the general rule as explained in *Pollock's Torts*, 6th ed. (1901), 492, 493, and cases cited; *Elliot v. Hall*, 15 Q. B. D. (1885), 305, 315; and on *Hayes v. Philadelphia Company*, 150 Mass., 457. It seems to be the statutory rule of Massachusetts that under the Employer's Liability Act any agreement between the owner of premises and the contractor that the contractor will assume all responsibility does not affect the employee of the contractor. *Wagner v. Boston Elevated*, 188 Mass., 437, 442, and *Sullivan v. New Bedford Gas Company*, 190 Mass., 288, 292. Nevertheless, it would also seem that the rule on which the plaintiff relies, and even the Massachusetts statute as interpreted by the Massachusetts courts, cannot apply to the case of a general jobber like the Ley Company here, who itself assumes all responsibility, thus relieving the party with whom it contracts of any duty in the premises.

However, it is not necessary to go into the above questions, because, as we have already stated, according to the plaintiff's case, the causa causans, the truly efficient cause of the injury, was not the condition of the poles, but the negligence of the employees of the Ley Company in the manner in which the work was done. The undoubted condition of the facts and the position taken by the plaintiff himself would prevent him holding a verdict if he received one on any ground except that of the negligence of the Ley Company. Therefore, on this part of the case, we are justified in speaking positively to the effect that the plaintiff has no cause against the Edison Company.

Judgments will be entered as follows:

In No. 698, *John D. Munroe v. Fred T. Ley & Company*, the judgment is reversed, and the case is remanded to the Circuit Court, with directions to set aside the verdict, and to grant a new trial on such counts of the declaration as are based on the second clause of section 71 of chapter 106 of the Revised Laws of Massachusetts; and the plaintiff in error recovers his costs of appeal.

In No. 699, *John D. Munroe v. The Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Boston*, the judgment of the Circuit Court is affirmed; and the defendant in error recovers its costs of appeal.

TO ALL ORGANIZED LABOR, GREETING:

DEAR SIRS AND BROTHERS: The first Monday in December, 1907, the 60th Congress will convene. The Members of the House of Representatives will proceed to elect a Speaker upon that day. Usually the candidate of the caucus of the majority party is elected Speaker. The Honorable Joseph G. Cannon has been Speaker in the past two Congresses, and unless the well-known opposition to his methods, even in his own party or other parties or elements in the House, is brought into co-operation, Mr. Cannon will unquestionably be again elected to that position, and that election will practically mean an endorsement of his past, and give him full range to carry out that policy in the future.

Recognizing all that Mr. Cannon has stood for in opposition to progressive legislation in the interest of labor, hence in the interest of all the people, we address the men of organized labor of the country, so that by common concert of action of all, some Representative in Congress may be elected Speaker who is more in harmony with the trend of progressive, reformatory legislation; who will aid in restoring the House of Representatives to the important position as a deliberative assembly, representing the people of our country. We ask the prompt co-operation of labor of the United States to accomplish the desired result.

It would be vain to attempt here to give even a brief account of all of Mr. Cannon's actions and attitude in which his hostility to the interests of labor and the common people could be recounted. Time and space and your patience forbid. But it is not amiss to indicate a few instances which are of general interest. And this too, not only as Speaker, but also as a Member of the House of Representatives.

During the 56th Congress a pretense was made to secure amendments to the Sherman Anti-Trust Law. The representatives of labor were apprehensive that the purpose of the amendment to that law would be to afford no relief to labor, and therefore suggested an amendment which it had drafted. Labor's amendment came before the House for a vote, and was adopted by a vote of 259 to 9. The conspicuous Member of the nine voting against it was Mr. Cullom. (Daily Congressional Record, June 2, 1900, page 6994.)

Labor secured the passage of a law to save the lives and limbs of employees on railroads, commonly known as the Safety Appliance Law. This law provided for uniform, automatic car couplers and power brakes on railroad trains. In the 57th Congress the enemies of that humane law made strenuous efforts to

fritter away its safeguards by authorizing a reduction of the number of air brakes to be used on trains. The parliamentary situation was such that the only way to prevent the passage of such a provision was to secure from the House the passage of a motion instructing its conferees with the Senate committee to recede from it. Such a motion was made and passed, but the Honorable Joseph G. Cannon voted against the interest of labor and humanity. (Daily Congressional Record, February 23, 1903, page 2704.)

All interests of an important character, other than labor, are represented in the government of our country by separate departments, each with its chief executive officer, who is a member of the President's Cabinet. Labor has, therefore, for years sought the creation of a Department of Labor, with a secretary, who, in the President's Cabinet, could represent and speak in the name of the vast interests of labor.

During the 57th Congress a bill was introduced to create a new Department of Commerce and Industries, and to absorb the Department of Labor. If we could not secure a separate Department of Labor, organized labor was opposed to the Department of Labor being made a subordinate bureau in the then proposed new department, and we asked that the Department of Labor be left free and independent, until such time as Congress might see the wisdom and necessity of making that department executive in character, and that its chief officer should be a member of the President's Cabinet. When the bill was under consideration in the House, a Member, one of labor's friends, moved to recommit the bill, with instructions to report a bill to retain the Department of Labor as a separate and independent Department, with a Cabinet officer at its head, but the Honorable Joseph G. Cannon voted against this proposition. (Daily Congressional Record, January 17, 1903, page 958.)

COMMITTEE ON LABOR CREATED AT THE DEMAND OF THE LABOR OF THE COUNTRY.

In the 58th Congress Mr. Cannon was elected Speaker, and made up his committees (before which labor legislation would come) in such a manner as to practically make it impossible for such legislation to be reported or enacted.

Prior to the 59th Congress, Mr. Cannon was communicated with and respectfully petitioned that in his appointment of the committees before which labor legislation should come, he might so constitute these committees as that they would give labor legislation a fairer hearing, consideration and action. These petitions he utterly ignored and accentuated

his hostile attitude by the appointment of Members, if possible, still more antagonistic.

During the 59th Congress the committee having in charge the Employers' Liability Bill amended it so as to require the parents of the unmarried employee who was killed to prove their dependency upon him before they could recover damages for his death. Labor's objection to this unfair amendment was made known to Speaker Cannon and an opportunity was asked to correct it, when the bill was up for consideration in the House. Speaker Cannon declined to grant this request, aye, before he would agree to recognize the Member of the House having the bill in charge for the purpose of moving its passage, he exacted a promise from him that he would not offer an amendment to correct the defect referred to, and by reason of the critical parliamentary situation thus created by the Speaker, we were compelled to permit the bill to go through the House with the objectionable provision retained.

Labor and other reform forces have for years endeavored to secure the passage by Congress of a law restricting immigration. Immense numbers—more than a million and a quarter—now come to our country within a year. One of the effectual means to secure this was an educational test, and this was incorporated in the bill before the 59th Congress, the U. S. Senate having adopted it in a bill which passed that body. It was clear that a majority of the Members of the House of Representatives were in favor of this bill, including the educational test, but Speaker Cannon not only used the vast power and influence of his office to defeat it, but he left the exalted position of the Speaker, went upon the floor of the House, and by force pulled members out of their seats, and by threats and intimidation made enough of them go between the official tellers of the House and vote against the proposition. As a result of his high-handed actions, the educational test was defeated and stricken from the Bill.

In the 58th Congress, the majority of Speaker Cannon's Committee on Labor adopted a series of resolutions containing inquiries which were incapable of intelligent answers. This course was adopted to avoid a record against Labor's Eight-Hour Bill.

In the 59th Congress Speaker Cannon's Committees on Labor was practically forbidden to report Labor's Eight Hour Bill. The committee sought to prolong the hearings to prevent a report on the bill. At one session a peculiar situation was created. There were seven members present; three of the majority party and four of the minority party, and by a vote of four to three the chairman of the com-

mittee was instructed to report the Eight Hour Bill to the House with a favorable recommendation that it pass. After the report was made to the House, Speaker Cannon positively refused to recognize any member of the House for the purpose of calling up the bill for consideration by the House; and thus, through Speaker Cannon's opposition and manipulation, the bill failed of passage.

In the 57th Congress the House of Representatives passed Labor's Bill to limit the issuance of injunctions and the prevention of their abuses. In the 58th Congress Speaker Cannon's Judiciary Committee prolonged the hearings in order to prevent reporting the bill. In the 59th Congress Speaker Cannon's Judiciary Committee had hearings upon the subject of the injunction abuse and appointed a subcommittee to investigate a phase of the proposition. The subcommittee in its report cited the very abuses of which labor complains in opposition to labor's contention. The committee printed the subcommittee's report as a House document and refused to print labor's reply exposing the fallacy of the subcommittee's report.

During the 59th Congress Speaker Cannon used his influence to force through the House, without giving labor an opportunity to be heard, an Act repealing the operation of the Eight Hour Law, so far as it applies to alien labor in the construction of the Panama Canal. It was stated in justification that this action applies only to alien laborers, but though this is true in so far as the act itself is concerned, yet the result has been that the men working on the Panama Canal construction, whether Americans or aliens, are working more than eight hours.

Even so far back as in the 46th Congress, on April 21, 1879, a Member of the House offered a resolution to enforce the Eight Hour Law. On May 7, 1879, it was favorably reported to the House. Mr. Cannon opposed the resolution, and in reply to a question 'whether the proclamation of President Grant did not declare that there should be "no reduction in the wages of workmen on account of a reduction in the hours of labor," Mr. Cannon said: "I do now recollect, but it is not material. The fact is, the law as now executed is this: If they work ten hours they get ten hours' pay, and if they only work eight hours, they get only eight hours' pay. That is the manner in which the law is now being executed, and so far as I am concerned, it will go on in that way, proclamation or no proclamation." And on Mr. Cannon's motion, the resolution to enforce the Eight Hour Law was laid on the table.

When it is borne in mind that in very few cases of government employes are the wages or compensation set by law, that

they are settled generally by heads of departments or wage boards, and that therefore a proclamation from the President has all the force of a command to his subordinates relative to such wages or compensation, it clearly shows even the early attitude of mind and hostility to labor of the Hon. Joseph G. Cannon of Illinois.

It is well known that with the exception of a few members of the House of Representatives who primarily benefit by Speaker Cannon's methods, nearly all the members of Congress, regardless whether they are members of his own party or of the opposition party, chafe under his methods of administering that office, but who, because of the power thus wielded by him are singly impotent to correct the abuse by which the members have lost their rights, as well as their independence, and who, if given an opportunity would gladly co-operate for its correction; and so that the House of Representatives might regain its rightful position as a great deliberative assembly and representative of the people's rights and interests.

As already stated herein, we can give but a brief resume of Mr. Cannon's record and actions, but when it is borne in mind, that the Speaker appoints the majority of all committees, that he can reward or punish members as they carry out his behests or policies, that legislation they desire or to which they are opposed can be furthered or thwarted by him, that when such power is vested in the hands of a man such as Mr. Cannon, so hostile to legislation in the interest of labor, and of other interests of an important character, it is not difficult to discern how the interests of the people are perverted. It, therefore, becomes the duty of all labor and all who sympathize with us in our

earnest and righteous effort to aid in restoring to the Members of the House of Representatives their rightful position in the halls of Congress; and to attain this the defeat of Mr. Cannon to become Speaker of the House of Representatives of the 60th Congress is essential.

On behalf of all organized labor of the United States, all central bodies and all local unions are urgently requested to pass resolutions requesting the Congressmen from their respective districts to vote against the re-election of Mr. Joseph G. Cannon as Speaker of the House of Representatives. In addition to this, committees of central bodies and of local unions are requested to each appoint a committee to personally wait upon the Members of Congress from their respective districts and present the urgency and the need of these members to vote against Mr. Cannon for the speakership. All central bodies and unions should endeavor to secure the co-operation of those who sympathize with the purpose of this communication, and it is respectfully requested that whatever action is taken, and the results thereof, be communicated to the president of the American Federation of Labor.

Fraternally yours,

SAMUEL GOMPERS, *President.*

Attest:

FRANK MORRISON, *Secretary.*

JAMES DUNCAN, First Vice-President.

JOHN MITCHELL, Second Vice-President.

JAMES O'CONNELL, Third Vice-President.

MAX MORRIS, Fourth Vice-President.

D. A. HAYES, Fifth Vice-President.

DANIEL J. KEEFE, Sixth Vice-President.

WM. D. HUBER, Seventh Vice-President.

JOHN B. LENNON, Treasurer.

JOS. F. VALENTINE, Eighth Vice-Pres.

Executive Council American Federation of Labor.

FEDERAL INJUNCTIONS JOLTED—LABOR'S CONTENTION JUSTIFIED.

FROM THE AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST

ORGANIZED labor is aware how unwilling, reluctant, and unfair Congress and most of the legislatures have been in the treatment of the vital and fundamental question of government by injunction, which involves the denial to strikers, pickets, sympathizers, and others the right of trial by jury, and the possibility of punishment for contempt at the whim of the court for actions perfectly legitimate—actions no jury would declare criminal or unlawful.

During many years the American Federation of Labor and central and local organizations of labor fought hard for the limitation of the use of the injunction and the vindication of law and justice.

For this we and they have been denounced by politicians and newspapers of a certain class as enemies of the courts, disturbers of the peace, seekers of special privileges, and what not. We have been told that the judges, state and federal, have done nothing by their injunctions, contempt cases, and arbitrary sentences to which a law-abiding American should take exception; that labor has been treated as all other classes are treated, and that everything is for the best in this best of all possible injunction-governed worlds.

Some of the highest public officials have admitted that the injunction process has been abused in labor cases, but they would not recommend any remedial leg-

isolation save as regards notice and a hearing on application for restraining writs in "non-emergency" cases. We have not thanked them for such small and doubtful favors, especially since, in truth, their proposals would legalize and sanction the abuse of injunction rule and make our last state worse than our first.

Recently another chapter has been added to the literature of the injunction question. It is a very instructive and interesting chapter. Labor should take it to heart and profit by it.

We refer to the recent so-called State Federal war over the rate reduction laws and the terms of settlement that have been negotiated in some of the states—notably North Carolina, Alabama and Virginia. There are plutocratic editors who say that the United States has ignominiously surrendered; that the President has missed a great opportunity to emulate Jackson; that the South is again threatening secession and reaching secession and nullification, and that the southern governors have acted wildly and "madly." Plenty of abuse has been heaped upon the head of Governor Glenn and not a little upon that of Governor Comer. But they laugh best who laugh last, and they have won and have the laugh over the rash defenders of nullification by injunction.

Our readers know the essential points in the controversy. At any rate, this is not the proper place for a review of the merits of the several controversies, or for the expression of definite opinions concerning the propriety of the course of the Southern executives. But the fact that compromises have been forced on injunction-mad judges, usurpers who claim the power to suspend state statutes without even ruling on their constitution-

ality, to restrain state railroad commissions from completing legal functions and duties, or from publishing orders or announcing decisions reached after patient inquiries, to treat state legislatures and state courts with contempt and grant injunctions on *ex parte* testimony of the windiest and most worthless character, to declare penal sections of state laws unreasonable, without regard to the purposes of the laws themselves, just because these sections have "teeth" and are really effectual—this fact, we say, is cheering, inspiring and significant.

The federal courts have long needed such a lesson. They have been encroaching, meddling, adding to their powers, acting in arrogant, highhanded ways and assuming to be the whole government. They have not only been enlarging their jurisdiction but changing the character of the weapons intrusted to them.

Public sentiment in the South would not tolerate such usurpation and invasion, and the judges of the Pritchard type have had to capitulate, with their corporate clients and owners. They have been reminded of the fact that at times the people make the laws for the courts, and that this country is not yet an oligarchy of plutocrats and their judicial servants.

Injunctions in labor cases are even less defensible than those which provoked the indignation of the South and resulted in the successful protest against judicial invasion and tyranny.

An equally powerful sentiment, an organized opposition, a vigorous and sustained protest on the part of all the organized workers and their justice-loving friends can not fail to produce a like result in the sphere that directly concerns labor. The injunction abuse must go, and labor must recover its constitutional rights.

LEARNING A TRADE.

The manager of a New Zealand machine shop employing 600 hands recently had occasion to engage a new foreman for one department, and he went outside and got his man. The reason given was that among the 120 men in that department he was not able to select one who had the all round knowledge required to handle the shop.

A man in the shop mentioned above recently said to me, "I've drilled just so many holes in just that one part for four years, and I've never yet seen the machine that part goes into!"

In a Massachusetts factory where nearly 2,000 machine tool operatives are employed not over 300 have received general shop training. The others are young men who have learned no trade, but who can and do quickly deft enough to feed

material to some one machine and feed it fast. The foreman of a gang of forty punch press operatives in this factory lately said: "There's not a man on the floor, as far as I know, who could carry the work along for a week if I got sick. Not one ever has a chance to show whether he has any executive ability or not. Every man has got to stick to his press and pay no attention to anything else." In such shops the men are not expected or even permitted to acquaint themselves with their machines sufficiently to enable them to make repairs or adjustments. If anything goes wrong a man is sent in from the repair shop and the operator is laid off until his machine is again in working order.—George Frederick Stratton in *Engineering Magazine*.

ENEMY OF LABOR.

DURING the session of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, August 11th, at Washington, D. C., the Buck's Stove and Range Company of St. Louis, through its president, Mr. J. W. Van Cleave, served notice of injunction proceedings citing the entire Executive Council and others to court as follows:

The American Federation of Labor, a voluntary association, having its office and headquarters at Nos. 423-5 G street N. W., Washington, in the District of Columbia, many of whose individual members reside in the District of Columbia; Samuel Gompers, of said Washington, individually, and as a member of, and the president and agent of, and a member of the Executive Council of the said American Federation of Labor; Frank Morrison of said Washington, individually and as a member of, and the secretary and agent of, and a member of the Executive Council of said American Federation of Labor; John B. Lennon, of Bloomington, Ill., individually, and as a member of, and the treasurer and agent of, and a member of the Executive Council of said American Federation of Labor; James Duncan of Quincy, Mass.; John Mitchell, of Indianapolis, Ind.; James O'Connell, of Washington, D. C.; Max Morris, of Denver, Colo.; Denis A. Hayes, of Philadelphia, Pa.; Denial J. Keefe, of Detroit, Mich.; William D. Huber, of Indianapolis, Ind., and Joseph F. Valentine, of Cincinnati, Ohio, individually and as members of, and the vice-presidents and agents of, and members of the Executive Council of said the American Federation of Labor, who with the said president, secretary and treasurer; compose the Executive Council of said the American Federation of Labor, and having their offices and headquarters as such Executive Council at Nos. 423-5 G street N. W., in said Washington; Rodney L. Thixton, Clinton O. Buckingham, Herman C. Poppe, Arthur J. Williams, and Edward L. Hickman, all of said Washington, D. C., and Samuel R. Copper, of Falls Church, Va., as individuals and as officers and agents of and members of the Electrotypes Moulders' and Finishers' Union No. 17, and members of the International Stereotypers' and the Electrotypes' Union and members of the American Federation of Labor, and the Electrotypes Moulders' and Finishers' Union No. 17.

The bill of complaint alleges that the patronage of the Buck's Stove and Range Company of St. Louis has been greatly lessened in many parts of the country and is threatened with ruination, all because the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor approved

the action of the International Brotherhood of Foundry Employees in declaring the product of the Buck's Stove and Range Company unfair, and because that fact was published in the "*We Don't Patronize*" list of the AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST. A lot of immaterial matters are incorporated in the bill of complaint, and counsel for the American Federation of Labor have made motions to strike these out in order that the case and particularly the principle involved may be fully tested in court.

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor has decided to make this a test case if it possibly can be done, and if necessary, to bring it upon appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States. Of course, it is well known that the National Association of Manufacturers and the so-called "Citizens' Industrial Alliance" (of both of which Mr. Van Cleave is president, as well as being president of the Buck's Stove and Range Company) have raised a war fund of \$500,000 for this year, and propose to raise another million dollars within the coming two years to crush organized labor.

When Mr. Van Cleave recommended to the National Association of Manufacturers the creation of this fund, and the convention of the association adopted the policy, we pointed this out. How much of the \$500,000 available for this year's campaign of "education" by the manufacturers' association is to be utilized in its suit against the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor we are not certain, but this we do know, that long after the Van Cleave war fund has been exhausted, and the ignorant, hostile National Association of Manufacturers has gone out of existence, Labor will give its patronage to its friends and withhold it from its enemies. In other words Labor will utilize every lawful weapon within its power to protect its rights and to advance the cause of justice and humanity.

So long as the right of free speech and free press obtains, we shall publish the truth in regard to all matters. If any person or association challenges the accuracy of any of our statements, we are willing to meet him or them in the courts and defend ourselves. So long as we do not print anything which is libelous or seditious, we propose to maintain our rights and exercise liberty of speech and the liberty of the press. If for any reason, at any time, the name of the Buck's Stove and Range Company does not appear upon the "*We Don't Patronize*" list of the American Federationist (unless that company becomes fair in its dealings toward Labor), all will understand that the right of free

speech and free press are denied us; but even this will in no way deprive us, or our fellow-workmen and those who sympathize with our cause, from exercising their lawful right and privilege of withholding their patronage from the Van Cleave Company—the Buck's Stove and Range Company of St. Louis.

So far as we are personally and officially concerned, we have fully stated our position in the American Federationist and elsewhere.

Do not fail to keep the Buck's Stove and Range Company of St. Louis in mind and remember that it is on the unfair list of organized labor of America.

LABOR IN ANCIENT TIMES.

Trades Unions Flourished In Ancient Roman Days—Forged Weapons of War.

IT is a fact that will cause astonishment to most men, being known but to few, that organized labor—labor unions in the strict interpretation of that word and much as they exist today—flourished long before the present Christian era. "All antiquity," says C. Osborne Ward in his great book, "The Ancient Lowly," "was a hive of trades unions." They existed literally by the hundreds of thousands in the ancient world.

It was the custom in ancient times, partly made necessary by law, for these organizations to chisel the names of their members and their proceedings on stone. So it has come about that they have handed down to posterity a complete record of their rules of procedure and their business operations. Indeed, one of the earliest of these organizations known is that of the union of caelatores, the carvers and gravers who worked in letters. It was part of their business to acquire a sufficient knowledge of Greek and Latin to fit them for their tasks.

Were it not for these tracts in stone the whole subject might have been obscured, if not lost, in the mists of time from which the epigraphist and the archaeologist have rescued it. But the words carved on stone by the members of these antique institutions, unearthed by the score in the museums of the Old World and found in the fields of Rome, Greece, Asia Minor and the islands, have defied time and resisted the destructiveness of the ages.

The right of labor to form free organizations—the *jus coeundi*—existed in a remote era. Solon, the great law-maker and lawgiver of antiquity, conferred this right on ancient Greece as early as 580 B. C. Rome is presumed to have copied it in the celebrated law of the twelve tables. Justinian incorporated it into the digest. Numa Pompilius, the good and the wise, who is made a contemporary of Solon by Plutarch, organized the entire working people, according to Mommsen, the renowned German historian, into eight classes or guilds

embracing all the arts and crafts of the age. It is held, however, that King Numa, borrowing from the far east, was by no means the originator of the trades union idea. He simply legalized and extended what already existed, perhaps for thousands of years before any recognition whatsoever had been accorded to it.

After the peaceful reign of Numa Pompilius—Plutarch states that he followed Romulus to the throne about 690 B. C.—the spirit of conquest was awakened among the patricians.

The artisans were put to work by the thousands to forge into weapons the steel that was to pierce the bodies of those who had no love for them and for whom they in turn could have no love. Trades unions of sword cutlers, arrowsmiths, shieldmakers, manufacturers of darts, javelins and spears, each of them separately named and organized under the ancient federation, sprang up rapidly on all sides.

Members of trades unions constructed the famous ballistae, or stone throwers, which flung projectiles of various kinds with deadly effect into the ranks of the enemy. It has been pointed out that since these machines were complicated and difficult to manipulate they were transported to their destination and erected by the members of the *collegium mensorum machinariorum*, or the trades union of the machine adjusters and setters. *Jacula*, or darts, were used in vast numbers by the Roman army, and since these were easily destroyed and lasted but a short time they were manufactured in great quantities by the old unions of weapon makers, all of which found a steady and liberal employer in the government.

There were likewise unions which supplied the army with clothes and shoes as well as with weapons, and Ward tells us in his "The Ancient Lowly" that "for at least 500 years the armies used union made wagons, union made swords, union made javelins, bows and arrows, helmets and shields; wore union made shoes, trousers, hats and coats and tore down the walls and battlements of their ene-

mies with union made catapults and battering rams."

The populace of Rome, the army and the workers were also supplied with food by the trades unions. An inscription found at Vernoia, dating from the time of Augustus Caesar, tells of a genuine union of wine men, who supplied the Italian metropolis with its favorite beverage. These organizations of the wine men, it is thought, were in touch with the different parts of Italy and either owned or

else hired wagons or boats to bring the wine to their storehouses.

In the same way the oil grinders' union, *collegium oleariorum*, bought the crude oils and the unpressed olives from the ships and boats at Ostia, took them to their storehouses pressed and ground them in their machines and bottled and sold the finished product.

One sees readily how such a diversity of functions gave support to a vast number of unions and to the still vaster number of persons who composed the separate unions.—I. K. Friedman in *Chicago News*.

TRADE UNIONS VS. FRATERNAL ORDERS.

It is well understood by all students of and active participants in the labor Union movement that the movement would be much stronger if its members took interest enough to attend its meetings regularly.

It is not alone the stay-at-home member that weakens the Union, but there are plenty of members who can always find time to go to a lodge meeting who seldom, or never, attend the meeting of their union.

No criticism or reflection is here intended upon fraternal societies for they are purely voluntary associations for mutual self-help and are performing a beneficial work.

This criticism is directed at the union member who does not value his union at its proper worth in comparison with the fraternal orders to which he belongs.

The success or failure of the labor union has all to do with the bread and butter of life for the member and his family. The questions of wages and conditions of labor, which may be directly or indirectly affected by a wise or unwise action at any meeting of his union, may determine for him, without his knowledge or consent, the question whether he is in the future to be able to maintain his membership in his fraternal societies at all.

To illustrate: In a union of 1,000 members, assume the average attendance at meetings to be thirty. Assume that of this thirty there are twenty who are pronounced radicals whenever a difference arises with the employers.

In such a meeting a petty question might come up and be so handled by vote of the radical twenty, that the employers of the industry may be needlessly provoked into an industrial war which may throw into idleness the 970 members who were not present, may deprive their families of the necessities of life, and may possibly extend to other industries and other cities, becoming a national as well as a local calamity.

To safeguard his own industrial in-

terests, which after all are more important to him than social evenings spent with "good fellows," it is necessary for the member to be present at his union meetings, and given to his industrial business the same careful attention and constant application that the successful business man gives to his commercial business.

It may be more pleasant, socially, to spend the evening at the secret order meeting where by mixing with merchants and professional men the worker for the moment forgets he is a working man, but as industrial affairs are more important than social affairs, so are union meetings more important to the wage-earner than fraternal order meetings.

There is no minute in the year when a unionist should forget he is a unionist. Business men quite frequently use discretion in joining secret orders, as for instance, one member of a firm will join one order, while another member of the same firm joins another order, so as to pull trade into the firm's store from both orders.

Business or professional men who cater to such trade as they can reach through fraternal orders seem never to forget that they are engaged in a business or a profession.

The union member will do well to realize that he is in the industrial business, and that he cannot afford to sidetrack his business for the benefit of any other person's business.

No good business man can afford to go away and neglect his business, leaving it entirely to the attention of others. If he does do so he must expect it to be ruined by his own neglect, and so the union man who neglects his union business should find no fault if his industrial business is wrecked during his prolonged absences.

Join as many fraternal orders as you think are beneficial to you, but do not set them up as of more consequence than your principal commercial interest in life—the trade union of your craft.—*The Shoe Worker*.

THE BANK'S MEANEST MAN.

IT was four thirty in the afternoon at the Third National Bank.

"Say, you fellows," exclaimed the paying teller, glancing down toward us, "who's the newest man this year?"

The fellow next to me raised his head.

"It's Phillips," he said.

"Send him here, then," returned the other.

I was Phillips. Accordingly I went.

"Phillips," said the teller, "let's see. Were you here Christmas of last year?" He knew as well as I did that I was not, but a man of his importance must ignore details. So I told him.

"I came in last October," I replied.

"So you did," he resumed; "well, now see here, Phillips. Christmas is only two days off, and it's always been our custom here to get up a little purse for the runners and the porters and the elevator men, and we always ask the newest man to pass around the hat. Now, here's a list showing just how much money we want for the purpose. It's up to you, Phillips, to see that the fellows shell out enough of the stuff. Understand?"

I nodded and took the list. The receiving teller looked in at the back door of the cage with a broad grin on his face.

"Tell him about the prize, Willoughby," he said.

"To be sure," returned the other. "I 'most forgot it."

He leaned over toward me with a confidential air.

"Now, Phillips," he continued, "there's one man in the bank who is particularly liberal on these occasions and that man is Williams, over there at the end of the line and for that reason we've taken lately to offering a prize—a prize to the fellow who can get Williams to break his record for generosity—to put up more money than he ever did before."

He stopped and winked at the other man, then he went on.

"Williams heretofore has always given up the same amount—neither more nor less—so it's up to you to go in and win the prize; no man has done it yet."

He dismissed me with a solemn nod.

I started at once. My plan was to go to all the other fellows first and leave Williams to the last.

I did so. There still remained a considerable unsubscribed deficit, and it was my determination to get Williams to make it up if I could.

So I stepped up to his desk and broached the subject.

He looked at me uneasily as I began and started to shake his head before I was half way through.

"I—I can't do it," he said, looking everywhere but at my face. "I—I'd like

to, you know, but my salary is small, and—and—but no, I'm sorry, but I can't do anything this year. Perhaps next year—"

"But, Mr. Williams," I protested, "look at the list. All the other fellows—"

"I know," he said, "but I—"

He hesitated for a moment, and then thrust his hand into his trousers pocket and drew forth a coin.

"Here," he continued, "I'll go this far—I'll give you this. I would never spend it any way, myself—it's a pocket piece. I hate to let it go, but you can take it."

He passed it over to me.

It was an old, time-worn three cent piece. He gazed at it hungrily as it lay in my palm.

"It would buy some fellow a cup of coffee and a roll," he said. "But," he continued, "it's a pocket piece—I'd never spend it, so you can have it."

I took it for what it was worth.

Next morning, before Williams arrived, I went to the paying teller and made my report. He took the money.

"What about Williams?" he inquired.

I held out to him the three cent piece.

"Williams is no good this year," I replied. "This is all I could get out of him."

"What?" exclaimed the paying teller, in evident astonishment.

Then he raised his voice.

"Gentlemen, gentlemen," he cried.

The men from all parts of the bank flocked to his cage.

"Gentlemen, resumed the paying teller, with his hand upon my hand, "I am happy to announce that Mr. Phillips here has won the prize. He has done what no one before him was able to accomplish. He has succeeded in inducing Williams to increase his annual donation by the sum of just three cents. Phillips," he added, addressing me with ceremony, "I—I congratulate you, sir. You have accomplished the impossible."

A great shout of laughter and applause went up. It suddenly abated as the front door opened to admit Williams, the object of their merriment.

Williams came in and slunk off to his desk. He looked, I thought, like a whipped cur.

My duties as collector of gratuities did not cease with Christmas.

A young runner of ours was knocked down in the street and broke his leg. Willoughby found that his people were poor, and that the lad would need some extra attendance, and that it would come hard—so we took up another collection—that is, I did for the others.

And again I approached Williams. But Williams stolidly said no. And they told me that it had ever been the same.

Williams had steadfastly and for years ignored all appeals of a kindred nature.

He was a good man, they told me—did his duty to the bank and all that; but they never got a cent from him.

To him there was no such thing as goodfellowship or charity. Apparently he didn't know what they meant.

And they had ostracised him.

Whether he realized it or not was hard to tell. He simply went his way, and they went theirs.

But it was enough, goodness knows. As a part of the machinery of the bank he was recognized; but as a man, a friend, a fellow companion, he was utterly ignored.

And I despised him with the rest.

But when the "Major"—Major Biddle, the colored porter of the bank, a man the bank had had for fifteen years—when Major Biddle died, I made an extra effort to tug at William's heart strings. I thought to myself that at such a time the man would surely yield.

Biddle had a wife and family—a lot of clean, curly headed little darkies that came down to the bank once in a while—and they were dependent solely on his wages.

We did well by them. The Major was a faithful man—and a popular one, too—hand in glove with all of us, and with half of Wall Street for that matter—and we did the best we knew how, and it did us good to do it.

But Williams was adamant. He wouldn't give a cent.

"Phillips," he said to me confidentially on that occasion, "see here. You've always treated me well—better than the others, and I want to tell you—I want you to know—that I would do this thing if I possibly could do it. But I simply can't. It's a case of the impossible, that's all."

He placed his hand upon my arm. "I want you to believe it," he concluded.

While he was talking I noticed that one knee of his trouser had been patched where the cloth had worn. He kept his hand over it most of the time. His clothes were old and faded. These things worried me a bit and set me to thinking, and I told Willoughby about them and about what he had said. Willoughby laughed at me.

"Phillips," he remarked when I had finished, "that fellow has said the same thing to each of us in turn. It's nothing but a bluff. And as for the clothes and the rest—there's just one explanation of the whole thing—the man is a mean one, with a capital M."

"I want to tell you this, Phillips. I've been here as long and longer than Williams has, and I know him like a book. He's mean clear through. It's a passion with him. That's all there is to it. I've watched him, and I know."

"And if there's a meaner, more despicable man in God's world than that man

Williams, I hope I never meet, or see, or hear of him. That's all I've got to say, and you can put that in your pipe and smoke it."

Well, I asked all the rest, and they all told me the same story—every one of them. He was mean—Williams. That's all there was about it.

Occasionally old Jenkins came around.

Jenkins was a superannuated old clerk that the bank had kept in its employ just as long as it was possible to do so. But banks are not charitable institutions, and Jenkins had to leave—five years before. He was absolutely of no use to the bank. And so he went.

It was understood that some relative was taking care of Jenkins—he was provided for, at any rate. So the bank never bothered its head about him—nor anybody else, for that matter.

But Jenkins would come around once or twice a year, and Willoughby—good-hearted fellow that he was—always had me take up the usual collection.

"Don't be ashamed to take it, Jenkins, old man, he would say kindly; 'we're all coming to it some day. Besides,' he added, 'the bank owes you a living, and we're only trying to pay you a part of the bank's indebtedness—that's all.'"

And so the old man bowed his thanks and took it.

By this time I was about through with Williams, as you may believe, but I asked him, notwithstanding, to contribute to the Jenkins fund.

I anticipated his denial, and turned on my heel almost before the utterance of his refusal had left his mouth.

But, would you believe it—on every one of these occasions, after old Jenkins had said a word to each of us, he would go and stand at Williams' desk for half an hour, beaming all over, and chatting away as though Williams was the greatest friend and benefactor he had ever had.

And Williams seemed to let the old man think so, too.

"Confound that fellow, Williams," said the teller. "Stringing the old man like that! I'm going to tell old Jenkins all about it."

And he did, but the old fellow only shook his head and smiled.

"Why, Mr. Willoughby—" he began. And then he stopped. "But no," he resumed, "he told me not to tell it—otherwise I would. But you're all mistaken," he added, "you are indeed."

"Now, what game of talk has he been giving Jenkins?" said Willoughby, as Jenkins left the bank. "He ought to be ashamed—the hypocrite," he added.

It was two days later that the president stepped out and called me.

"Phillips," he said, "tell Williams that I'd like to see him, will you—in my office?"

I went down the line to Williams' desk. Then I came back.

"Mr. Williams is not there, sir," I reported. "He isn't here today."

"What!" exclaimed the president.

Then he stuck his head in at the cashier's room.

"Any mail from Williams?" he inquired. "He isn't here today."

But there was none, and Williams didn't show up on that day or the next.

On the third day the president spoke to me again.

"Phillips," he said, "something must have happened to Williams, otherwise he would have let us know. Here's his address. Suppose you go up there at noon-time and find out what the matter is, and let me know, I can't account for it."

I found Williams in a hall bedroom—the only room he had—on the top floor of a cheap tenement way up on the East Side. He was in bed.

As I entered he sat up and rubbed his eyes. He sat there for a moment and looked at me uncertainly. Then he spoke.

"Oh, it's Phillips," he said in a sort of weak voice.

"Phillips," he explained, "I—I overslept this morning. I'm glad you came. You can explain it to them. You see, last night when I left the bank I wasn't feeling very—"

"Last night!" I exclaimed. "What are you talking about? You haven't been there for two days."

"What—what's that?" he cried. "Two days!"

He looked at me stupidly for a minute.

"I—I must have been sick, then. I must have been out of my head. Two days—two days!"

He leaned forward suddenly and caught me by the hand. "Say, Phillips," he continued eagerly, "will my salary go on the same?" I've never been sick before, and I don't know. Ask 'em for me, will you, when you go back? I hope it does. I can't afford to lose two days. You ask 'em, will you? And, say, Phillips, you tell the old man that I'll be down tomorrow morning, sure. I would have come today, but I tried to dress this morning and found I couldn't finish. You tell him about it, Phillips, will you? And, say," he added as I started for the door, "find out about the salary—whether it goes on."

"Well," said the president to me three-quarters of an hour later as I stood before him, "what's up—what's the matter with him?"

"Well," I replied, "I saw him, sir. He was in bed. He said he was sick, sir; but he didn't look it."

I was determined not to spare Williams in the least degree.

"He didn't look it," I repeated. "His eyes were bright, and his cheeks were red—plenty of color in his face—and he

looked better than I ever saw him look, Mr. Breslin, that's a fact, sir."

I was a mere lad, and came of healthy stock, and knew nothing of the signs of illness—the effects of fever. The president looked at me with an expression of concern.

"What," he cried, "red cheeks—Williams with red cheeks! Good Lord, man—he must be sick. Come here with me."

He took me out to Willoughby.

"Now," he said, "tell Willoughby what you have just told me. Now, Willoughby," he added when I had finished, "Williams must be in a bad way, worse, even, than we supposed. Can't you go up there after four today, and see what you can do for him? Do anything that's necessary, you know—if it's a case of doctors or medicine, or anything, why, get it and charge it up to me. Williams has been here a long time, and the bank can't afford to lose him, you know—he's too good a man."

The teller looked at me and made a grimace. He didn't like the job. But he said he'd go, and after hours he went.

I was a few minutes late next morning myself. I entered to find the whole office force gathered around Willoughby in expectant attitudes, while the teller was starting in on one of the harangues of which he was so fond.

"Fellows," he began, as he looked around upon the crowd, "I want to tell you that we're the meanest, snidest set of cads and bounders in the City of New York—that's gospel truth—and I'm the king pin of the lot."

"We think we're about the most liberal, whole-souled set of fellows in town—but let me tell you we're away off. There's just one man in this bank," he continued earnestly, "and only one—who knows what the word charity really means, who'd go without a shirt to his back, or without food to fill his stomach, for the sake of helping another man along—and that man's name is Williams—Johnny Williams—and don't you forget. And he can give us cards and spades and beat us all hands down, at our own game."

There were smiles of incredulity, murmurs of astonishment.

"I mean it," resumed Willoughby, "every word of it. Look here," he added, "you all know what Williams gets a year. Well, let me tell you what he does with it. I found out all about it. And we all thought he was laying away the stuff. Listen, and I'll tell you."

"He's got a crippled sister—I saw her, and she's in about as bad a shape as any one could be, spine and hips all out of gear—and it costs Williams over half his salary to furnish that girl with medicine and doctors and massage and surgical appliances, and all that sort of thing."

"Well, that's natural, of course; that's

to be expected. She's his own flesh and blood.

"Well, then, his brother died four years ago, leaving a sickly wife—I saw her, too—and five little tots, and I saw them. Their mother can't do much, of course, and they're not old enough to go to work, and so Williams takes care of them—and of her, too. No reason why he should, of course—we know that—but he does. And that isn't all either, not by a long shot."

He paused and glanced around again on all the interested faces. Then he struck his desk with his clenched fist.

"We ought to be ashamed of ourselves—the whole gang. You all know old Jenkins," he continued. "Well, you know we all thought old Jenkins had some friends or relatives who were taking care of him. Well, he hasn't—not one. And they were going to cart him off to the poor house—this was five years ago, just after he left—the old man was without a cent."

"Well, sir, Johnny Williams stepped in to the breach, and for five years he's paid that old man three hundred dollars a year—and taken food out of his own mouth and clothes off his own back to do it. And that's the kind of man," he added fiercely, "that we've been bullyragging and browbeating and cussing all these years."

"If I had my way," he said severely, "I'd go out there and knock the whole gang of you, and then give you leave to knock me out afterward."

"Now, wait a minute. That's not all," he interposed as one of the fellows started in to speak. "Williams is in a bad way. He's nothing but skin and bone. He's got a bad fever, and he's out of his head. The doctor says he's simply starved to death. He says that it was simply a matter of a few cents with Williams—that if Williams could have spent only five cents more a day for food—a loaf of bread or a quart of milk more—he could have stood it. But now—"

He stopped for an instant.

"And oh, I forgot to tell you," he went on again. "Williams is engaged to be married—a fine girl—I saw her, too; and they are wrapped up in each other, and there isn't a chance of their getting married—well, for years. But they're sticking it out, both of them, and she's waiting for him—and she will, till doomsday, if necessary—she's that kind. And—and," added the teller in a husky voice, "and fellows, it's—it's a damned shame. Confound your ugly hides, that's what it is, and nothing else."

We were all dumbfounded. We stood there, none of us knowing what to say.

The teller started in again.

"There's just one thing we can do," he said. "We can never pay him up for the way we've treated him, but we can do something for him. Williams hasn't got a cent—not a sou. The doctor says he's

done for, unless one thing pulls him through.

"If Williams is to live and get well, he's got to go away—that's the only thing that'll save him. And it's going to cost two hundred and over—say two fifty at the outside. Now—"

The receiving teller poked his hat through the window from his cage next door.

"You've talked enough now, Willoughby. Here, Phillips," he said to me, "pass around the hat. We'll make up the amount. It's money that talks—even better than Willoughby, though he's good at it, I'll admit."

But Willoughby held up his hand.

"We don't do it that way," he said. "I've thought it all out."

He took a small coin out of his pocket.

"It's Williams' three-cent piece," he added. "I've kept it as a souvenir. We—we'll raffle it off. I've got the slips all ready. Every man will take a slip and pay so much. We'll draw tomorrow after hours. The lucky man gets the three-cent piece. How'll that do?"

It was satisfactory to the crowd. By noon all the slips had been sold, and we were shy only about twenty-five dollars. But the president made that up himself.

Next day at four, Willoughby called me to his desk. He held out his hat.

"Have you got the slips?" he said.

I nodded and put them in the hat.

"I—I made out one for Williams, too," I said, producing it. (It was No. 51). "I thought he ought to have a chance."

"A good idea," he said. "Let me have it."

"He took it, but I didn't see it go into the hat."

"Now, call the rest of them," he added; "this must be open and above-board."

They came, and he told them about the one we had put in for Williams. They approved of the idea.

"Now, gentlemen," he continued, "Phillips will shake the hat well, and then hold it up above my head, and I will draw."

I did as he directed. When everything was ready, he put his hand into the hat. As he did so, I saw that he inserted a long, lean middle finger between his coat sleeve and his cuff.

"I've got it!" he exclaimed. "Here it is."

He produced a slip. We crowded round and looked at it.

"It's No. 51," he said. "Look on the list, Phillips, and see who's the lucky man."

Everybody looked.

"Why—its Williams!" they all cried.

"Why, so it is," he said. "How very odd."

And he glanced around at me with a smile that was childlike and bland.

It was three months later to a day

when we next saw Williams. He came in one afternoon, all tanned and browned—for the first time for many years with some natural color in his face.

He passed at once into the president's room, but waved his hand to us as he disappeared from view.

The cashier, who was in there at the time, was good enough to tell us later what occurred.

After the usual—or rather, unusual—greeting from the president, the president asked Williams to take a seat. Williams did so.

"Now, Williams," he said, "the board have insisted on my employing a private secretary—I'm getting old and perhaps forgetful," he added with a smile, "and I suppose I need one. I want to offer you the job. The salary is fair—five hundred more than you've been getting. The duties are somewhat onerous perhaps. I'm rather cantankerous at times, but—"

Williams looked at him with gleaming eyes.

"What is the nature of the duties, sir?" he inquired in his embarrassment, for want of something else to say, perhaps.

"I—well," said the president, and then he stopped. He caught the cashier by the sleeve.

"Say, Carruthers," he whispered, "what the devil does a private secretary do—tell me in ten words? I never had one before, and I'll be hanged if I know myself."

"Why, yes, Mr. Williams," he resumed aloud. "Yes, of course. The duties of a private secretary are, of course, well un-

derstood. He must look generally after the details, you know, and then he must—well, yes, he must look after the details. That is about the scope of his duties—to look after the details."

"I shall be very glad—only too glad," began Williams, but the president interrupted him.

"And, oh yes, Williams, there's another thing I want to say. I've got a little cottage with a little piece of ground around it back here across the river, in the country. It's no good to me, and I've made up my mind to get rid of it. So I thought I'd give it to—Mrs. Williams as a sort of a—a—wedding present, don't you know. I don't know what better I could give her, or what better means I could find for getting rid of it."

Williams looked at him aghast.

"But there isn't any Mrs. Williams!" he protested.

The president glanced up, apparently in anger at the protest.

"Williams," he said severely, "that's—that's a mere matter of detail—you must arrange that—you musn't bother me about—about details. I don't employ you to do that. All I say is that I'm going to give that house and lot to Mrs. Williams—that's all there is about it. There's the deed. I haven't filled in the first name. That's a matter of detail, too. I leave it to you. You fill in the name."

Williams looked at the two men in a dazed sort of fashion. Then he blushed up to the roots of his hair. Finally he found his voice.

"It's Katherine," he said simply, looking out of the window.—The Boiler-makers' Journal.

THE HAPPIEST OF ALL MEN: THE TRADE UNIONIST.

BY H. B. MOYER.

TAKEN as a whole, the happiest class of men on the face of the earth are those comprising the mighty trade unions scattered broadcast throughout the breadth and length of this vast continent. And this is as it should be. What can be more honorable than earning one's bread by the sweat of one's brow? And what can give more real joy and honest, self-satisfaction than the knowledge that in earning one's bread one has given a fair day's labor and general satisfaction to the employer?

The trade unionist realizes his own worth, but he seldom overrates himself. He insists on receiving just recompense for his labor and exerts himself, out of respect for himself and his union and a sense of fairness toward his employer, to give forth the best that is in him.

The honest toiler is glad when the working day begins and happy when it is over. In every healthy being is a desire to do work of some nature, be it mental or manual, and the man who finds his natural bent and follows it can not but be happy. Healthful outdoor employment gives the workman an appetite which can not be attained by those who toil over a set of books in a dingy, stuffy and oftentimes illy ventilated and poorly lighted office. Hence a toiler who does not welcome meal time is out of the ordinary run of outdoor workmen.

The union mechanic knows that he is following his natural bent and can not become proficient unless he likes his chosen form of toil and feels happy while at work.

The union mechanic works but forty-eight hours a week on an average. He

doesn't have to wear out body and mind by over-taxing his physical and mental capacities in practically working day and night to make a livelihood as does his non-union brother, and he is therefore in condition at all times to do his best work during the working hours of the week. The knowledge that he is able to do and does do his work in an efficient manner is alone enough to bring happiness and to make him content with himself and the world at large. When a man feels contented and likes himself he generally likes everybody else.

Your habitual grouch despises himself first and the world in general afterward, and there is always a cause for chronic grouches. Monetary causes are chiefly responsible for blues and kindred failings, and more often than not it is the man who has too much of the filthy lucre, but who fancies he has too little, that is in the dumps. Then there is the workman who feels that he is lacking in one or more of the essential qualities which go to make up the successful, self-satisfied, and happy mechanic who is almost continually plunged in the deepest of deep dumps. If a man is inefficient he does not need to be told so; if he has an average amount of gray matter he realizes the fact fully, and it is the realization that causes unhappiness.

On the other side of the fence we have the capitalist who has become so entangled in his own money-making schemes that he is an unwilling, unhappy prisoner. It is a positive fact that many men like Rockefeller, Morgan and Harri-man would have given all the ill-gotten wealth they possess to have made just enough to keep them comfortable the remainder of their lives and then stopped.

They were unhappy when poor, dissatisfied when fairly wealthy, greed superceded happiness when very rich, and now they are so filled with the desire for making gold that they haven't time to feel content or happy.

Think of a man in this free and glorious country going about with a body-guard for fear of being assassinated! That is John D. Rockefeller's predicament exactly. Hated by the poor whom he and his hirelings have mercilessly robbed and betrayed, despised by all who have in their beings an atom of fair-mindedness, and feared and hated by even his fellow business colleagues, the "wealthiest man in the world" must, indeed, be a miserable, unhappy creature. This man of untold wealth is afraid to sit by an uncurtained window in a train, keeps the location of his sleeping apartments a secret, and wears a wig as a means of disguise, and yet he is envied by many of those who are privileged to toil and make an honest living!

Of course, Rockefeller has been a

target for those who write for decades and it may be unfair to select him as an example of the unhappy rich man, but no more convincing subject could be found anywhere.

Morgan is another striking example of the successful unhappy business man, who first worried because he had so little (?), later fretted because he had so much he didn't know what to do with it, and is now worrying his head off trying to formulate a scheme to get the world's wealth in one grand swoop.

An English writer, in describing this typical American financier, says: "A hideous face, features contorted with greed, forehead corrugated with worry-furrows, eyes bulging out as if to hypnotize the passerby."

The small shop-keeper is worrying about outstanding debts and incoming bills while the man who conducts a larger establishment is constantly puzzling his brains in an effort to further enlarge the place and increase his earnings. The little fellow is in a constant state of agitation lest he be gobbled up by the trusts and the latter are fretting for fear something "good" slips by them unnoticed. The same applies to the contractors. One is worrying about the laxity of his material in arriving, another is in a constant state of fretting about his contract price, which he fancies may have been "a trifle low;" and so it goes from top to bottom and vice versa.

Meanwhile the honest, conscientious union mechanic is contentedly making his way over the calm sea of happiness. All he asks is an opportunity of working for himself and family at fair wages and like hours; he asks no odds, and gives none. The man who lives from hand to mouth is twice cursed. He is obliged to worry until the mouthful he has just partaken of is paid for, and then to figure out where the next one is coming from. Non-union mechanics take for truth (because they have to) the statement of the employer that a workingman requires but enough to get along on at the moment.

There is always a future and oftentimes a rainy one, ahead of everybody—rich and poor alike—and he who is able to and does provide for that time can but be happy, now—and then.

The labor unions alone have made it possible for the worker to carry a bank book and to lay away a little nest egg for stormy days to come, and there are none who appreciate this fact besides those who go to make up the unlifting, ameliorating labor organizations.

Then with the blessings mentioned and innumerable others added why should not the steadfast union mechanic be the happiest of all happy beings? And he is.

SUCCESS OF CONCRETE POLES

BY PERRY J. FREEMAN IN SOUND WAVES.

THE continued demand for cedar so far exceeds their production that a substitute for pole leads, whether from the point of economy or otherwise, has had considerable fascination for construction engineers. A patent has recently been granted to Mr. Wm. Bailey of Richmond, Ind., covering reinforced concrete poles, which has peculiar interest along this line. After much study and a series of tests, Mr. Bailey has demonstrated beyond all doubt that his invention will not only meet but promises to surpass some of the requirements and claims established for cedar.

Mr. Bailey's patents have been assigned to the American Concrete Pole Company, of Richmond, whose intentions are not only to construct concrete poles under contract, but to sell the right to construct to other companies and users on a small royalty basis, or to sell the right to certain territory.

With the reinforcement of electric carbon twisted rods and spiral binding wires properly distributed in the column of cement, the poles are not only substantial and durable, but remarkable elasticity is displayed. For instance, a pole thirty feet in length will permit a deflection of thirty inches before the cement cracks. To obtain this result would require one-third greater horizontal strain at the top than would be sufficient to destroy a cedar pole of the same dimensions.

Even then the cracking of the cement does not impair the strength of the pole in the least, for after this takes place the reinforcement becomes active and takes the entire strain, and as the special rods are guaranteed to withstand a breaking of fifty thousand pounds per square inch, it is an easy matter to understand why this class of construction has two or three times the strength of cedar. The facts developed by these remarkable tests emphasize the surprising feature that they were not adopted long ago.

As will be seen by the accompanying illustrations, the poles are square, with the corners beveled off two or three inches, so that the top of the pole is octagonal in shape. This not only gives it a handsome appearance, but leaves the corners substantial and avoids a sharp edge that would be liable to chip off.

The rods are placed within three-quarters of an inch of the surface of the cement at the corners and are then bound together by a spiral wire encircling the four rods from top to bottom. This not only serves to tie the rods together, but prevents danger of the cement shearing off, as the rods have a tendency outward

when the pole is subjected to a lateral strain. Another important function performed by the spiral binding wire is that it ties the concrete together and increases the flexibility of the entire body.

The smaller poles, up to and including thirty-five feet in height, are molded lying on the ground, and after they have been seasoned are set in place by means of a gin pole. The forms are laid with the butt near the hole and the reinforcement placed. Then the concrete is poured in and allowed to remain three to seven days, according to the weather. The forms are then removed, so that they can be used again, and the pole is left to season. This process requires about three or four weeks, and the poles are then ready to be set and used. All poles should be built on the ground upright in the hole or in position to be set up, thus saving the cost of hauling or unnecessary handling, as this would increase the cost. Poles forty feet in length and larger should be built standing, as this is the most economical method. First, the hole is dug and then the form is set in place directly over it and lined up straight and perpendicular, temporarily guyed so as to hold its position. The spiral binding wires are then put in place and the rods drawn up on the inside of the form and set. After the reinforcement has been properly secured, the side of the form that was left out to receive the steel work is put in place and the bands or ties around the outside secured. The equipment is then ready to receive the concrete.

There are several methods of placing this material. One is by using a bucket with pulleys and a horse. By this method, a fifty-foot pole can be filled in about two hours, including the mixing of the concrete. The most economical plan, however is to have a wagon equipped for the purpose with a gasoline engine, concrete mixer and grain elevator. With this equipment, the material can be placed as rapidly as it can be mixed. The American Concrete Pole Company is now building wagons for the handling of concrete and concrete poles.

Some of the advantages of concrete pole construction may be summed up as follows:

The depreciation fund is relieved and can be spent for other improvements or go to pay dividends. It is said that underground construction is like diamonds, ever increasing instead of decreasing in value. This can also be said of concrete poles, as it is an undisputed fact that concrete improves with age. This has been most thoroughly demonstrated by

the pyramids of Egypt. As the United States reports show that from \$15,000,000 to \$16,000,000 is being annually expended to take care of pole depreciation, it is time to stop and consider how this is to be avoided.

Concrete poles are permanent instead of temporary, as is the case with cedar, and are not subject to destruction by birds and insects.

Every pole is a lightning rod and not only protects itself from being shattered by lightning, but is a safeguard to instruments and machinery at both ends of the line; as the major portion of the lightning will be conducted to the ground through the steel reinforcement.

Concrete poles are stronger and less liable to flaws and are not subject to decay, therefore the danger of valuable property being destroyed by wind, sleet and fire is materially reduced, if not wholly eliminated.

One of the important points in favor of permanent cement pole construction is that it dispenses with the necessity of replacing poles. It is well known that in placing a wooden pole, the cost of the pole is a small item compared to the expense of labor necessary to make the change.

The cost of painting required in cities to beautify and preserve poles is eliminated. The concrete pole presents a more pleasing appearance and is therefore less objectionable to city officials and the general public.

Self-supporting poles can be constructed to take care of any and all strains at places where it is impossible to secure anchorage.

The cost of dressing, framing, roofing, boring and stepping is dispensed with and pole yards are no longer necessary.

Figure 1 shows the Bailey pole in detail, two years old, which has been subject to all kinds of strain.

The lead of poles constructed across Whitewater River at Richmond is shown

in Figure 2. The poles are from forty to sixty feet in length and were built in a perpendicular position. It is needless to say that this piece of work is permanent.

In Figure 3, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, give the detailed construction of the pole and reinforcement. No. 1 shows the four electro carbon rods as they are placed in the cement body, with the spiral binding wires pulled in place. No. 2 shows the general view and shape of cement body as finished, the steps and other bolts and holes are very easily made, while the concrete is plastic. No. 3, 4, and 5 show cross-section of pole with three different methods of binding; also two different methods of reinforcing. The scheme represented in No. 4 is only intended for extremely heavy construction. No. 6 gives a detail method of the manner of securing cross arms. A bolt, or rod, is placed in the form and removed within 24 hours after the concrete has been placed. This becomes a clean hole through which the bolt that is intended to hold the cross arm can be placed and the arm securely bolted on.

No. 7 represents the top, or roof of the pole. This is easily put on after the pole is finished, but is not necessary except for appearance.

After the forms are assembled and put in place they are wound in the proper manner to receive the rods. After the rods have been drawn in, the binding wire is stretched from bottom to top, which gives a tie around the rods about every four inches. The rods are then spread and placed and after the form has been secured, the concrete is poured in and allowed to harden. After three or four days, the forms can be removed and the pole left to season. About three weeks' time is required before it will be ready for use.

Mr. Bailey has made application for patents on forms varying in sections from five to fifteen feet each and divided up so as to be easily handled.

EXPERIENCE.

BY HARRY S. COYLE.

The definition of experience is "to train by practice—to perform the same task over and over until the worker becomes an expert in that particular class of work." If you should go into a shop and ask the employer for a situation, the first thing that he would ask you is, "How much experience have you had in this work?" He does not ask how long you have worked at the trade; nor how many times you have performed a given task, but what he really desires to know is "How much thought and study have you

put into your work?" For the sum of these two are really experience.

Employers of today are looking for men who think as they work—who plan ahead as to the best method of performing their work and the men who "make good" are called "men of experience."

This does not signify that these men have worked at the trade a longer time than other men who cannot compete with them as workmen, but this term "men of experience" means that these men have used their faculties of observation to good advantages and have studied and mastered the fundamental principles of

their trade. Experience as measured by time of service is of little value to a man, unless he has in that time developed his powers of observation and reason.

To know how to use one's eyes is half of life's battle won. Some men may work at a trade indefinitely and yet every step they take will have to be suggested by the foreman. This is because they have never learned to see. If a man desires to succeed in any line of endeavor he must first learn to use his eyes.

Some men can pick up a plan of work and master it at a glance, and you marvel at their rare ability, and yet it is simply a matter of training the eye to see. After a person has trained his eyes to see that which is beautiful, true and good, he should train his mind to see that which the eye cannot behold—to see that which does not as yet exist—to reason on certain propositions, what would be their effects if applied to certain classes of work!

From a mechanical standpoint experience is threefold in its relation to human endeavor, which are as follows:

1. To learn to see with the eye.
2. To learn to see with the mind.
3. To learn to do with the hand.

To master these qualifications is to become experienced; and to become experienced is to make sure of success.

It is an old but a true saying "that nothing succeeds like success," and success is the product of experience.

The elements requisite to insure a successful career for the skilled mechanic are not many to be sure, but they are vital.

To be successful a man should have common sense, should give unrelaxing attention to the duties of any position undertaken and faithfulness to detail. Men fail not so much from the lack of opportunity to do great things as from neglecting to appreciate and observe all of the essentials which enter into getting on in small things.

The successful men in our trade have in the largest measure created their own conditions, proven their own worth, and gained for themselves place and position. We must do likewise if we desire to maintain the standard which is set by them.

The inspiration to improve conditions as we find them must come from within and not from without; the helping hand must be one's own and not that of a brother. There must always be demonstrated ability and a willingness to undertake responsibility somewhere, though it be very humble.

Some men content themselves with doing just as little as possible in order to get on and not lose their situation.

It is a prevalent, but nevertheless mistaken idea that union men endeavor to

restrict the output of labor per man; on the contrary the output of labor per man is much greater in union shops than non-union, and this can be proven by statistics.

In union shops there is concord and harmony everywhere and if a man falls behind in his work, the others will pitch in and help him, "cheer up old heart, we will help you, never say die!" This is the spirit of the union shop. Is it successful? you ask. Well, now, that is an absurd question; how could it fail? When the men will do things not demanded and will do them well and voluntarily, this has attracted the attention of wide-awake and intelligent employers to union men everywhere.

On the other hand there are—I am sorry to say—a few men who satisfy themselves with doing the least possible to be done, and that little in the most routine manner. These men work out their own harm; degenerates into the human machine and are of a necessity passed by those of more intelligence and industry.

Success comes to those who do the very best that can be done under all circumstances. Confidence invites success, and confidence coupled with a determined will is the steam behind the piston rod. We are the heirs of the ages and do not desire to become their prodigal sons, nor could we be and remain within the field of electricity, for it is so vast and far-reaching and the opportunities for each and every man to advance are so numerous that no one need to feel himself of no importance. If his position is meek and lowly he can make it important if he will only strive. There are abundant opportunities always open for men of experience, and there is really no excuse whatever for anyone of average intelligence of not being experienced when the price of good books are within the reach of all. It is of course obvious to all that a mechanical trade is not a thing that can be learned out of a book and by rule; it must be mastered by actual experience on the part of the apprentice; but while a man is working at a trade he can vastly increase his usefulness by learning the theory and advanced methods of performing his work; especially is this true of the electrical craft where theory and practice must go together if the worker desires to advance.

The wonders that have been accomplished in the field of electricity by the blending of theory and practice, and of the promise that comes from the state of unrest in which the electrical science now exists, it seems a fitting final word to suggest that constant study is the price of a clear understanding of conditions that prevail in the domain of electricity.

A PRACTICAL INQUIRY.

Should Women in the Home be Interested in Unions and Their Labels?

Woman, whether employed in the mill or the factory, or in the home looking after the needs of the family, plays an important part in the world's work and should be interested in all that concerns it. If she works at an organized trade, and does not become a part of the organization, she is not only standing directly in her own light but is doing a great injustice to her fellow workers.

The woman in the home (possibly the home of a Union man) who spends money earned under Union regulations for goods that have been made under the most unfavorable conditions, may not be directly affecting herself or her husband, but she is prolonging the struggle of the workers for better conditions. (Look for the Union Label!)

Every time we make a purchase we become an employer, and work for or against our own best interests. It is inconsistent for the wives of Union men to be the employers of non-organized labor. I regret to say that in this matter women have been rather indifferent, notwithstanding the fact that through organization the natural bread winner of the family has been able to command better wages, shorter hours and improved conditions. Better wages mean more home comforts. Shorter hours for the bread winner mean not only better health for all but shorter hours for the housekeeper. It was this apparent indifference on the part of women as individuals which showed the need of the formation of the Woman's International Union Label League, an organization which is filling a long-felt want. Although the underlying principles of our organization are unselfish, we fully realize that everything we do to improve the conditions of the natural bread winner of the family is indirectly in the best interest of every member of his household.

The objects of the Woman's International Union Label League are: To promote the welfare of the wage earners; to discontinue the sweat-shop system of production by encouraging the sale of Union-made goods; to gain a universal 8-hour day; to abolish Child Labor; to secure equal pay for equal work, regardless of sex; to aid the Sunday and early closing movement; to urge industrial and political equality for women.

The Union Label is by far the most effective weapon in the hands of Trades Unionists today. If Union men and their families would buy only such goods as show the label, the result would be far more helpful to the cause than any strike could ever hope to be. According to statistics, child labor has increased 33 1-3 per cent. within the past ten years. This fact alone should inspire women to a determined effort to do their part to prevent the employment of children. They can do this by persistently demanding the Union Label. It will not be found on any article made wholly or in part by a child.

To organized labor I believe I can safely say: There is nothing you can do that will bring about better results than to devote time and effort to the organization to Locals of the Woman's International Union Label League. Women must be taught the value of the Union Label, and that it is women who are the purchasing power. A united effort on the part of women in the interests of the Union Label would prove the greatest possible help to the organization of both men and women.

I am ever ready and anxious, upon request, to send information pertaining to this organization.

Address:

Annie Fitzgerald,

Int. Pres. W. U. L. L.,

236 S. Homan Ave., Chicago.

OUR LUXURIOUS LEGISLATORS.

Members of Congress will soon have their offices in splendid palaces. Within a few weeks after Congress meets in December the two new white marble palaces which are to be known as annexes to the House and Senate, will be ready for occupation. Each is a beautiful structure, costing \$2,500,000, and, occupying an entire block, as a total frontage on its four sides of 1747 feet, or about a third of a mile.

These palaces are in effect detached wings of the Capitol. They are gigantic office buildings, each of them occupying more ground than the Waldorf-Astoria in New York. The House Annex, which is not far from completion, will contain four hundred and ten rooms—one for each Representative in Congress, with a few left over to provide for future increases in the membership of the great legislative body. The Senate Annex is

divided into ninety-nine suits, each comprising a private room for the Senator, a room for his secretary, and a bathroom. In both palaces will be employed a multitude of uniformed menials, to wait upon the luxurious statesmen, and to make life as easy and comfortable for them as possible.

Servants' wages, rent, fuel, lights, and all incidentals are paid by the Government. The apartments are beautifully furnished and decorated at Uncle Sam's expense. Meals will be served in the rooms if desired. But in each palace is a vast and superbly equipped dining-salon, exclusively for legislators and their guests.

The annexes will be connected by underground electric railways with the Capitol. In each palace one will find a subway station at the base of the rotunda, the most striking architectural feature of the palatial annex. It is seventy-four feet in diameter, and extends upward clear through the four stories of the building, terminating in a superb dome under the roof. All of the space underground beneath its floor is occupied by the subway station, likewise circular, into which the trains come from the Capitol.

The trains on this newest American subway are worth attention.

They are composed of six tiny steel cars, each of them only sixteen feet long, under charge of a motorman and conductor, both of whom are in the uniform of the United States Government.

Senators, Representatives and those who have business with them will ride to and fro in the trains, which seem like toys in comparison with those that run above ground. All the cars are open on one side, the missing side being replaced merely by a safety rail, so that there is only one bench running lengthwise. Passengers entering at either end seat themselves upon this bench and look out through the open side of the car.

The train runs through a tunnel which connects the Annex with the south end of the Capitol. This subway is seven hundred and fifty feet long, twenty-two feet wide, and eleven feet high. It has a curved roof, and along one side of it runs a walk six and a half feet in width, paved with concrete. Being lined with white vitrified brick and illuminated by electricity, the tunnel, though without any skylights, is almost as light as day.—Rene Bache, in *Harper's Weekly*.

EDUCATION IN GERMANY.

The important task of spreading wholesome literature and useful knowledge is, as a matter of fact, not sufficiently performed by the splendid libraries for which men like Mr. Carnegie are never tired of providing the funds. With all due appreciation for the generous gifts offered in our days by the wealthy classes of the old and new world, we may point out that these libraries are naturally confined to the larger towns and the universities. The real want of the first means of self-education is, however, not felt in these places, but in the villages and the open country. Here help can not be brought by some magnificent foundations, but by the patient, unpretentious and indefatigable work of the generations. It is this kind of work for which the Society for Spreading Popular Knowledge has been organized in Germany.

Its founder was the late member of Parliament, Herr Heinrich Rickert, and it is now presided over by Prince Heinrich Schoenath-Carolath, a poet of some distinction. This society has taken up the programme of bringing appropriate literary treasures of the whole world within the reach of the population in the villages and smallest towns. For this purpose it uses either already existing little libraries of elementary schools and village clubs or founds libraries of its

interchanged between many villages consists of 80,000 volumes; so that their is variety enough for a lifetime. It consists of novels, poetic literature and fiction exclusively.

As a new venture another traveling library composed of popular works on science was set moving in 1906, and it was found out, that at least in the larger villages and small towns there is a sufficient demand for scientific literature to be highly satisfied with the result. Many towns that are sufficiently provided for with a circulating library for works of fiction, apply for the lending of the traveling scientific library, as their means do not allow them to include this branch of literature in the purchases of their own library. For the sake of the children the society has adopted the plan of arranging a small exhibition of children's and juvenile literature in the villages. Great care is taken to include only wholesome books at reasonable prices.

Moreover, the society arranges public lectures and literary entertainments even in the remotest villages. Lately it has taken up the publication of little pamphlets treating on practical questions. The first installment was a treatise, "How to preserve good health and the power of making one's living," by Professor Kalle and Dr. Schellenberg. Up to now 80,000 copies have been distributed in the open

own. Thus, in 1906, altogether 421 new village libraries with 22,147 volumes, were started, while 4881 already existing libraries were presented with 96,302 volumes.

Most important for its purpose is the plan of lending a collection of books to a village for a year only, until all persons living there may have had a chance of reading the offered books of their liking; then the whole set is brought to another village, while a new collection takes its place. This traveling collection

country. In the list of contributors toward the expenses of this society we find also the name of the German Emperor.

Other associations of a similar kind try to use the organization of the German book trade for selling good reading at the lowest possible prices. Quite recently the "German fund for the memory of poets" has inaugurated the plan of providing the works of living authors at prices that hardly pay for the printing expenses and binding.—Seamens' Journal.

WOMEN TELEGRAPH OPERATORS.

GRAHAM TAYLOR IN CHARITIES.

The telegraphers' strike, as pointed out in these columns last month, is proving a remarkable demonstration of prolonged concerted action by a group of toilers peculiarly handicapped in their efforts to act together. Every day the continued resolute firmness and steady-going endurance are more surprising to those who have watched through years the ups and downs of heroic struggles waged by new unions, whose main resource has been enthusiasm. The telegraphers have combined with this enthusiasm the level-headed judgment and the "sticking" qualities that usually have characterized older and more experienced unions.

The women operators, so far from lagging behind in this regard, have in reality proved themselves spirited leaders. And perhaps this is because they have even more at stake than the men. Of still greater concern to them is the demand for higher wages, because linked with it is the additional demand that compensation for given work shall be the same for women as for men. But in working conditions are found the more insistent reasons why the women operators declare they never will yield. The so-called "commission" offices involve not only an outrageously low wage, but subjection to low moral influences. The Women's Trade Union League is endeavoring to bring these facts before the public. According to a governmental report, the average wage of women operators is less than ten dollars a week. This is the average wage, and it is thereby admitted that there is some wages still lower. Many of the offices in hotels and drug stores pay only a commission salary. In a few instances this is found to be as low as five dollars a month; in some it is ten to fifteen dollars a month, and in a larger number of cases it is twenty dollars a month. But the women operator in a commission office must accept messages from the public indiscriminately,

even when they are accompanied by familiar attentions often forced upon her by the so-called "sporting element" found at these public places. It is surely intolerable that she should find herself in her ordinary day's work in a position where she cannot rightfully resent such acts, and where her wage is dependent upon the toleration she shows.

Local conditions, moreover are often found to be objectionable. The entrance by which all girl operators in a Chicago central office are required to enter, is through an alley having several saloons and frequented by saloon loungers.

Many unfair tactics have been resorted to by the companies to escape the necessity of giving the ten per cent increase "granted" a few months ago. A couple of instances are sufficient. A girl whose wage was \$40 a month and who expected to receive \$44 under the increase was told that the company could dispense with her services. Another girl had been receiving \$60. The ten per cent increase raised it to \$66, she was then transferred to another office where she received \$50, and the young woman who took her place in the first office received a wage of \$55. This method has reduced many of the wages of the higher paid operators and thus also the average wage, and was in vogue even before the ten per cent increase. This is what the telegraphers incorrectly term the "sliding scale" and against which they are protesting.

Much abuse also attends the rental of typewriters—for each operator must supply his or her own. If the operator is unable to save enough from wages to purchase a machine, the rental must be made from some one in the office who has this privilege. If rental is made in other ways, the operator is made "uncomfortable." The rental price is \$3 a month, the working day being from 8 A. M. to 5.30 P. M. When the operator works daily overtime an addition is made to the rental price.

IS THE BOYCOTT UN-AMERICAN?

BY SAMUEL GOMPERS.

The Van Cleve anti-boycott suit against the officers of the American Federation of Labor and others has naturally been the subject of much editorial remark by the press. In some notable instances the cobbert has been intelligent, just, and fair. The principles of freedom of speech and the freedom of the press being valiantly upheld. But we regret to say that for the most part the criticism has been lacking in intelligence as well as unfair. Few editors seem to understand the issues and principles involved, and still fewer have the moral courage and the honesty, the independence and the consistency, to tell the truth about them. Some either deliberately misstate the facts, or give the public half-truths and partial statements that prevent the people from seeing the truth.

The cheap and shallow commentators are of course delighted with the Van Cleve suit. The "un-American" boycott, say they, should have been forbidden long since. These gentry can not understand why the fight on it has been so slow in coming. They assume there is not the slightest doubt that it will be done away with now, root and branch, forever and a day.

But pray how and from whence do these scribes and screechers get their authority for the howl, that the boycott is un-American and ergo un-patriotic? Of course observers will understand that if the ignorant, vicious, or sordid minded can impose upon the public (often too busy to apprehend the real truth involving a great question of liberty and right) the idea that the doing of a certain act is un-American and un-patriotic, then of course prejudice and opposition will be aroused against the doers of that act. Dr. Samuel Johnson said, "patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel." The pretence of patriotism on the part of the scribblers and the insinuation of unpatriotic, un-American conduct on the part of labor, instils the suspicion that Dr. Johnson's cynicism aptly fits our critics.

But whether or not the boycott is really un-American and repugnant to American thought and action is a matter worthy of investigation and elucidation.

Of course it is well-known that the term boycott originated in Ireland about twenty-five years ago during the land agitation of the people under the leadership of Parnell, Davitt, and others. An absentee landlord's agent, Captain Boycott, more cruel than the average, incurred the special resentment of the tenantry. They declared that they would "hold no intercourse with him or deal

with him." The incident created world-wide interest, and since then nearly all forms of social ostracism, political opposition (except by regular parties), or commercial discrimination, whether by business men or by Labor, have been termed "boycotts." A new phrase was

A LIST of the Names of those who audaciously continue to counteract the sentiments of the Body of Merchants thro'out NORTH AMERICA; by importing British Goods contrary to the Agreement.

John Bernard,
(In King-Street, almost opposite
Vernon's Head.

James McMatters,
(On Treat's Wharf.

Patrick McMatters,
(Opposite the Sign of the Lamb.

John Mein,
(Opposite the White-Horse, and in
King-Street.

Nathaniel Rogers,
(Opposite Mr. Henderffon Inches
Store lower End.

William Jackson,
(At the Brazen Head, Cornhill,
near the Town-Horse.

Theophilus Lillie,
(Near Mr. Pemberton's Meeting-
House, North-End.

John Taylor,
(Nearly opposite the Heart and
Crown in Cornhill.

Ame & Elizabeth Cummings,
(Opposite the Old Brick Meeting
House, all of Boulton.

Israell Williams, Esq; & Son,
(Traders in the Town of Hatfield.

And, Henry Barnes,
Trader in the Town of Marlboro.

The following Names should have
been inserted in the List of
Justice.

Samuel Hendley	County of Lincoln.
John Borland	
Henry Barnes	John Kingbury
Richard Cary	
County of Bristol	County of Berkshire.
George Brightman	Mark Hopkins
County of Worcester.	Elijah Dwight
Daniel Blifs	Israell Stoddard

coined for a time-honored method of expressing in practical and effective form the displeasure of one or more persons against unfair opponents.

The coining of the new phrase, however, created no new weapon, no new right, no new wrong.

But to the point, is the boycott in all that the term implies un-American?

All the students of American history know that the Boston "tea party" was an American boycott against British merchants and British government.

It is also well known that in various parts of the American colonies there was formed an organization composed of zealous American patriots for the securing of fairer treatment from Great

Britain. A large group aimed to achieve American independence.

That organization was known as the "Sons and Daughters of Liberty."

The hopes that they cherished, the

WILLIAM JACKSON,
an IMPORTER; at the
BRAZEN HEAD,

North Side of the TOWN-HOUSE,
and Opposite the Town-Pump, in
Corn-hill, BOSTON.

It is desired that the **SONS and DAUGHTERS of LIBERTY**, would not buy any one thing of him, for in so doing they will bring disgrace upon themselves, and their Prosperity, for ever and ever, **AMEN.**

BOYCOTTING POSTER

aspirations for American independence to which they gave expression, and the acts done to achieve this, were they unpatriotic, un-American? Did they boycott? Let us see.

In the great work of Prof. Woodrow Wilson, president of the University of Princeton, entitled "History of the American People" there are published photographic reproductions of printed boycott posters and circulars issued by the Sons and Daughters of Liberty a few weeks before the beginning of the Revolutionary War for American independence.

Because of the historic value of these documents and to help dissipate the shallow pretence that Labor is guilty of acts un-American in conception and purpose, we herewith reproduce photographic copies of these early American boycott posters and circulars just as they were issued about the year 1775, and just as they appear in President Wilson's history. There are three of them. Read them, names and all. Then ponder over them and let each ask himself whether labor's boycott of today is unpatriotic, un-American.

THE TRUE SONS OF LIBERTY

And Supporters of the Non-Importation Agreement,

Are determined to offend neither the least Inlet or Menace offer'd to any one or more of the several Committees appointed by the Body at Faneuil-Hall, and chastise any one or more of them as they deserve; and will also support the Printers in any Thing the Committees shall define them to print.

AS a Warning to any one that shall affront as aforesaid, upon future Information given, one of these Advertisements will be posted at the Door or Dwelling-House of the Offender.

HAND-BILL OF THE SONS OF LIBERTY

This set of editor-educators—heaven save the mark—who invoke the eagle's scream in the effort to drown the voice

ter by whom, by how many, or for what reason called and carried on, are entirely legal.

The second set of editors, who are a little more intelligent, we would consider for a moment. This class tries to distinguish between individual boycotts, or boycotts by small groups of persons, and those by strong and powerful unions—locals, central, or national. The latter they profess to regard as illegal and immoral, at any rate, because—because—they hardly know why. Presumably because such boycotts are effective, whereas individual boycotts are negligible.

The same fallacious distinction used to be made about strikes. It was formerly held that many men may not strike in concert, because that was a "conspiracy to injure." Today even the lightning-quick injunction judges admit that strikes on any scale are lawful, because combinations of men for legal purposes are not conspiracies. Still, the courts have a tendency to thoughtlessly follow the unfair employers on the boycott question, and stick to the absurd notion that numbers can affect the moral quality of an act or method when each individual in a given number may rightfully do the thing done by the temporary or permanent group.

There is a third class of objectors. We are told by these that a really peaceable and offensive boycott is within the rights of all Americans; that no court would issue an omnibus injunction forbidding all boycotting, without reference to circumstances and methods. The right of all to trade where and with whom they please, to give or withhold their patronage, must be respected. The right to ask others, in a friendly, quiet manner, to trade with one and not to trade with another, must also be conceded. The right to publish "white lists" of considerate, humane manufacturers and merchants can hardly be disputed. The Consumers' League has a white list, which, by implication, suggests that those not appearing there are unfair, and no one has proposed to enjoin it from circulating and publishing this list. Suppose sweaters, exploiters, hard hearted and sordid employers should go into court and ask that the Consumers' League be prohibited from recommending to all fair and decent men and women to patronize their more humane competitors? Wouldn't they be laughed out of court?

But, it is said by those who make all these reservations and admissions, the American Federation of Labor and union labor generally have not limited themselves to peaceable, gentlemanly, moral-suasion boycotts. It is charged that not only have they circulated and published black "We Don't Patronize" lists instead of white "We Patronize" ones, but also

of labor, who clutch at the heavens in the endeavor to becloud the fair name and ennobling purposes of the labor movement, do not know or perhaps remember that even the anthracite coal strike commission felt itself constrained to admit the legality and propriety of primary boycotts, and ventured to criticize only secondary ones. Its logic was dreadfully lame, as we showed at the time, for if we have the right to boycott A, who is unfair, we have the right to boycott B if he persists. In spite of our requests and suasion, in dealing with A. But, waiving this consideration for the present, the aforesaid wisecracks of the editorial sanctum have not the sense to recognize that primary boycotts, no matter that they have "coerced" men into joining boycotts that did not concern them, have resorted to bullying, threats, aggression, and tyranny for that purpose. We are, in other words, told that what the injunction suit really aims at is the suppression of brutal, immoral, and lawless methods of forcing boycotts on unwilling persons, the elimination of malice and abuse from the sphere of industry and commerce affected by the boycotts of organized labor.

The trouble with these good and conciliatory people is that they either have not read, or else choose not remember, the allegations, prayer, and relief sought in the Van Cleave suit. While all sorts of vague charges are made, and the words, "intimidation and threats and malice" are liberally used, the bill asks the court to enjoin all forms of boycotting. No distinctions are made; none were intended.

It is hypocrisy to pretend that it is violence and coercion that the enemies of labor wish to have enjoined. There has been no violence in connection with the Federation's lists or their circulation. There is not the least danger of violence, and the militant employers in the Van Cleave combine are well aware of that. There have been no improper threats, no bullying, no aggression. Warnings of intended action within legal limits are not threats in any objectionable sense, and there is no question of malice where only their rights are exercised by those who impose or join in boycotts for the promotion of their interests. The case is in the courts, but in commenting upon it we might wish that more of our editors would show some sense and fairness.

DOES IT PAY TO OPPOSE UNIONS?

Just think of it, the great, mighty, powerful, twenty-one million dollar Pope Manufacturing Company recently went into the hands of a receiver, and considering the fact that it has had a fight on its hands with the International Machinists' Union for a lengthy period, it is pertinent to ask a few questions.

Does it pay to deny the workmen the right to organize? Does it pay, when the workmen desire to collectively bargain for the sale of their labor, to refuse with contempt and scorn to meet their chosen representatives?

Ask the Pope Manufacturing Company, and if it speaks the truth it will acknowledge that its fight against the International Machinists' Union has contributed largely to its financial embarrassment.

The Pope Manufacturing Company, in a financial way, was considered almost impregnable, like the Rock of Gibraltar, but its mighty financial armor has been pierced and shot to pieces, for while it had the money it didn't have the workmen needed to carry on successfully its business affairs. The International Machinists' Union didn't have the millions in money, but it had the skilled workmen which the Pope Manufacturing Company needed but couldn't get because it refused to concede to them the right to organize in order to protect their skill and collectively bargain for a proper reward for their labor.

The twenty-one million dollar concern

is only a shining example of the many before it that have shown how helpless the almighty dollar is in the industrial field when the labor of the workman is withdrawn. Van Cleave, the president of the Manufacturers' Association, and in which the Pope Manufacturing Company held membership, is another example of the dependence of capital upon labor. Van Cleave is a stove manufacturer, and he is today seeking at the hands of the Federal courts an injunction forbidding the various trade unions of this continent from declaring and publishing as unfair the product of his non-union stove factory, while he, himself, demands the right, and does not hesitate to exercise it, of branding as unfair the only marketable thing in this world that the union workman has to sell—his labor, and calls upon all employers to refuse to purchase it.

Throughout this entire continent there is no place in which Van Cleave and his allies hesitate to make war upon organized labor and brand it as unfair whenever a chance occurs to do so. There is no conspiracy too foul and mean for them to resort to in order to exterminate the workman as an organized factor in the industrial life, and yet, when they find their devilish schemes have been successfully challenged upon labor's battlefield, in their despair and desperation they beg for his enslavement at the hands of the judiciary. The VanCleave will find out,

however, after all their conspiracies and unrighteous methods have failed to dethrone labor as an organized force in the industrial field, that it will face them stronger and more united than ever before because of its persecutions. They will also discover there is no power on this earth that can or will take from the union man the right to declare such persecutors unfair, and after such declaration to go still further by placing before the public the facts of labor's grievances, and asking that self-same public when such grievances are considered just by it, to lend its aid by refusing to purchase products manufactured under unfair conditions. Wouldn't it, we ask, be more in a line with duty they owe to the nation on the part of the Van Cleaves, instead of wasting money upon litigation, and creating funds of millions of dollars to be used for the sole purpose of visiting destruction upon organized labor, to meet labor's representatives, and in a calm and dispassionate manner reason out whatever differences exist, and by concessions on the part of both settle them sensibly in peace and good-will? Is it not reasonable to conclude that if the employers have millions of dollars to subscribe toward industrial warfare, they are certainly in a position to give the union workman the better condition for which he is striving, which will make his life and the lives of those dependent upon him brighter and more cheerful in every way? The better conditions, if granted universally, would call for but a small percentage of the millions of money that are being raised to fight the demands of labor. Its circulation and the greater purchasing powers that it would bestow upon the working masses would give untold blessings in thousands of channels, and a greater peace and contentment to the toiling masses.

Industrial oppression does not and never did come from the organized workmen. It has always emanated from the

ranks of the master—so-called—and while it is admitted that there have been cases of unwarranted dictation, and possibly wrong doing at the hands of labor in some instances, as charged by the VanCleave's, yet this does not justify the anarchistic relations between employer and employee that the Manufacturers' Associations of Employers advocate. Labor, in its organized form, is teaching fair methods and square dealing with the employing class, and it demands these things in return. The day of irresponsible labor and intolerant exactions upon the employer is past, and the same rule applies to the employing class. The ambition of organized workmen through their chosen leaders, is to be just and to receive justice in return, and this just dealing and recognition of the rights of each will in the end prevail.

Let the employers organize; we favor it, but in coming together, instead of preaching industrial warfare and devising ways and means of raising funds to fight union labor, let them discuss and establish measures that will tend to bring the workmen and employers into a truer and more just relationship, and from which will spring a higher regard for the interests of both and the welfare of the country generally.

Labor combined, working under trade union principles, will live and thrive. It will have its setbacks, but these will be but temporary, for its destruction is impossible. Past history teaches us that though labor has been vanquished on many fields, it has never been defeated, but to the contrary, it has returned to the economic field of battle stronger than ever before, and so it will continue until the end. May the day soon dawn when labor will receive its just rewards, and this endless strife in our industrial life pass away. It is surely coming, for the world is growing greater and better as each year rolls by.—Bricklayer and Mason.

WANTS TO KNOW.

In the Kriesblatt, a newspaper published at Hoechst, near Wiesbaden, Germany, there recently appeared the following advertisement: "Can any one favor me with the names of the balloonists who, when

passing over the village of Ried last Thursday evening, dropped a bag of ballast down my chimney and completely ruined a fruit tart which I was cooking? —Julia Schmidt, 14 Britzelgrasse, Ried."

CORRESPONDENCE

Pittsburg No. 5.

In reading over the correspondence in the September issue of the *WORKER*, I note the very prevalent use of the phrase, "Nothing doing in this burg, brothers, please stay away." It is certainly discouraging to the "floating element" to scan those lines but brothers, we must meet these conditions the best way we can. And speaking for Pittsburg, I'm sorry to say things are slow. We've had a very dull season, and the outlook is not very promising for the near future. At the first of the year we expect hostilities forced upon us by the contractors, we are asking for \$4.50 per day with several changes in the working conditions. All this they have flatly refused, but we expect to win and will win if the brothers will only exercise their old fighting spirit and traveling brothers can aid us materially by staying away until the trouble is settled.

Very fraternally yours,
J. P. KERRIGAN.

Detroit No. 17.

Settling down to meet winter conditions, and news is scarce; if of interest to the Brotherhood, however, we might say that the ball and pedro party given by Locals 17, 18 and 553, at Gaine's Academy October 23rd, was a grand success in every particular. No. 18 is in difficulty with the Vinton Co., General Contractors, and by reason of such the function was graced with the presence of First G. V. P. J. J. Reid and Oliver Myers, P. D. C. No. 60. "Jimmy" was a 100 to 1 shot from the first number to Home, Sweet Home. "Our Own" Oliver fared not quite so well.

Our D. C. Convention opens here November 2d, and we expect a good representation of the Ohio and Michigan Locals.

Numbers 17, 18 and 553 assumed their customary obligation of entertaining the delegates and their joint committee have so far arranged a theatre party and luncheon to follow.

E. G. S.

New York No. 20.

With your kind attention for a few moments, No. 20 will administer a few of her troubles. At present quite a number are unemployed here, but our

progressive business agent has a good line up on "free lunch counters," therefore tranquility prevails.

The intense rate of deaths caused by the high tension wires in this locality, has demanded considerable attention of late among the linemen, and a movement on foot to get an increase of pay has been actually realized by those employed by the Flatbush Light Company, all linemen employed there having received an increase in pay of twenty-five cents per day, the movement as yet not having materialized with other companies throughout Long Island. We will wait till later to report our success with these people.

Our immediate success with the Flatbush Light Company is really due to the cleverness employed by our worthy committee (consisting of District Organizer Ryan, Brother Geron, President of No. 20, and President Wanburton of No. 522) in conference with the officials of above stated company.

There has been quite a run made on most all of the different banks in New York recently, causing a money panic, but I have noticed no terror-stricken faces among the linemen, and judge that the Brotherhood is not very heavily involved.

New York, however, is flooded at present with innumerable philanthropists and labor lovers, in whom very few of us place extensive reliance after the ballots have been tallied up.

Hoping I am not out of order, there is one point the laboring class should be more careful in, that is electing reliable law-makers, not only wait till election day to name their choice but see to it that responsible persons are nominated, take action in promoting those from the rank and file of organized labor, and don't come up with the cry that he was the best you could pick off the "bill of fare," which was formed entirely by the political clique.

Our sister Local No. 522 of Brooklyn, has enjoyed extensive growth during the past sixty days, during which period their charter has been lowered to five dollars.

Brother Wanburton of that local experienced a new trick of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Railway Co. While he was soliciting membership among the trolley men employed there, he was

arrested on the charge of transgressing, but they could not make it stick.

Boys, don't ever hold sympathy for the pretended "imposed upon incorporations" which are always unable to render any assistance to toilers, unless you make them, because they are always meditating some scheme whereby to crush "Unionism."

Hoping this receives all our Brothers with approval, I will now envelope my first attempt as press secretary.

With best wishes, I am, Fraternally,
B. W. (Pee Wee) JONES.
193 Bowery, N. Y.

Duluth No. 31.

On Sept. 21st, our esteemed brother, Edward Larson, whose picture appears



above met with an accident. A pole that was being lowered fell on him, producing internal injuries that resulted in his death, nine days later and Local Union No. 31 mourns the loss of one of the most active members. His sunny disposition, manliness and never failing good nature made for him a warm place in the hearts of all who knew him, and his devotion to our cause and willingness to make any sacrifice for its principle made him a valuable member of our organization, whose memory will ever remain with all the members of Local No. 31.

We are informed that he has a brother living by the name of Rudolf and who is a brother of the I. B. E. W.

We would appreciate any information concerning any of his relations as to date we have been unable to locate any of them. If any member knows of his broth-

ers whereabouts, I wish they would kindly notify,

F. C. DENNE.

Duluth, Minn.

Duluth No. 31.

I would like to call your attention to a very ridiculous article published in the ELECTRICAL WORKER under date of October, 1907, under the heading: "Splicing Lead Covered Telephone Cables Paper Insulation." I would like to state that out of the eight figures shown of length of sleeves to use for different not one of them is correct. Also his table size cables, not one is correct; for instance, a 2-inch by 18-inch sleeve is used on all cables from 25 to 75 pairs, and a 2½-inch by 18-inch is used on all cables from 90 to 150 pairs. The size sleeve, Mr. Dubell says, should be used for a 150 pair is 8 inches longer than should be used on a 400 pair cable; for instance, a 3½x24-inch sleeve is used on a 400 pair splice.

His explanation of bonding cables in manholes is very unexplanatory. He says a No. 10 B. & S. copper wire is generally used. It is not. A strip of copper 1x1-16-inch is generally used. He says the No. 10 Copper wire, after being soldered to each cable, should be run to a permanent ground, whereas a bond wire should be run to any metallic object that the current is jumping to and from the cables, such as to street car tracks, or water or gas pipes. Very often the bond wires have to run to the negative side of dynamos in power houses. This was done in Washington, D. C., Baltimore, Md., sixteen years ago.

He also says all cables should be bonded in a manhole of which is not correct, as it is not necessary to bond cables in any manholes except where the current is jumping from the cable, as the cable is not hurt in manholes where the current is coming on.

His article on Bonding does not give any reason why cables should be bonded. He does not mention Electrolisis at all. His article on testing Paraffine is not used by cable men. We test it by spitting in it. A cable man would not splice a cable that had moisture enough in it to make the paraffine fly all over the manhole.

Mr. Dubells fig. 8 test could be used on a coil of cable in a shop but not in conduits unless he expects a cable man to run an extra wire from one manhole to another. As he shows, one side of his battery is connected to one end of cable, the other side to bell and the other side to the other end of cable. Suppose the cable was 300 feet long, would he pull in an extra wire from one manhole to another?

The above I write to show you that you are giving valuable space in your

paper for the sake of letting Mr. Dubell making a dunce of himself and misleading any apprentice that does not know any more about cable work than he does. Yours very respectfully,

M. K. CRENSHAW.

Duluth, Minn.

Columbus No. 54.

As we have not had anything in the WORKER for some, would be pleased to see this in Nov. WORKER.

54 has been having its ups and downs but is still in the ring, have many new faces, but don't think any member will complain about standing as at Jersey City, No. 15, instead have many chairs that wait for Friday nights only to be disappointed. We tried fining, but did not prove a drawing number, some kick because its too hot, others too cold, but you can't find any of them in between the extremes, the weather now is just right to have good meetings, but have one? Hurry up boys winter will soon be here, too cold to come then, so at least come now.

54 has been kept on the map by a faithful few, so come around and show your appreciation. Nothing extra in line of work, but Bros. make a living, can't say more. There isn't a card job in town so you can guess the rest.

Are getting in members very slow, but hope for the best. Have several Bros. on sick list, some travelers, but manage to get enough together for meeting before breakfast the next day.

Hoping this will wake the Bros. up, so we will have something of interest for the next WORKER.

Fraternally yours.

L. G. Taylor, Press Sec.
986 Jaeger St.

Youngstown No. 62.

As there has not been any news in the WORKER for some time in regard to the conditions of Local No. 62 of Youngstown, I thought a few words would be appreciated by the Brothers at large.

We have a strike on here with the Youngstown Telephone Co. since last May and it has been quite a strenuous one at that and we have put up an aggressive one at that. The Telephone Company imported some six scabs in here and with the aid of their city foreman, Daniel Myers, who refused to come out with the rest of the boys, they are kept busy clearing trouble.

The snakes have been without a leader for three weeks as Myers was nursing a sore head with eighteen stitches in it. Brother Hughes was arrested and proved a complete alibi; and by the way, if any of the Brothers who meet with Brother

Slim Harrison, give him the glad hand, for he is the goods. Good luck, Slim, you have the best wishes of the Brothers of Local 62.

The Telephone Company have threatened to secure injunctions on the Light Company, restraining their linemen from climbing their poles, saying that one of our men can make more trouble for them than three of their men can clear.

Only one of the Brothers who come out has showed the yellow and he is of the brightest color at that. But he did not surprise any body as we had expected it. Curtis is a snake and a dirty one at that. We payed him \$10 per week benefit until he went as a fireman on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and now he is back scabing. You may rest assured that he was not trusted with any important matter at any time.

In regard to the work in this place there is not much doing. Some high tension has been going on and is nearly completed. Some traveling Brothers has been coming in here but on account of the blacklist which all the companies had on the Brothers who were out on strike, we would not let them hire any until that list was raised.

Well, as I have had the floor the limited time I will try and break the short-circuit I have on this pen and will try and meet some of the Brothers at the District Council at Detroit, November 2.

Yours fraternally,

H. P. McGORR, Vice-President.

Houston No. 66.

For the second time I will write a few lines to let the outside world know that Old 66. is not dead. We have got a fine bunch of boys. Our local is growing some. We are taking in a few new members and quite a number of traveling cards have been deposited, such as Bro. A. O. Craft, out of 583; Bro. J. A. McConville, out of 570; Bro. M. F. Krunkle, out of 14 and W. P. Boger, out of 129.

We always welcome the Brother that has a paid-up card and give him the best we can. I am sorry to note that Bro. (Kill Dee) S. D. Claiborne is on the sick list. There is not a great deal of work here everything is about filled.

With best wishes to the Brotherhood,

I am, Fraternally,

F. O. HODGES.

Syracuse No. 79.

A short letter for the WORKER. It has been so long since any one has wrote from L. U. 79 that some of the Bros. may think we have closed up, but we are "still doing business at the old stand" and always glad to see any Bro. who comes along, but would not advise any

of the boys to come to Syracuse looking for line work as there are plenty of men here for all the jobs at present.

Most of the Companies here seem to be trying to reduce expenses, so there isn't much doing in the line of new work and what work is being done is repairs and orders and while there is reports of lots to be done it is all in the sweet bye and bye and won't do us any good till work is actually begun.

Hoping the boys will excuse this short letter and will try to do better next time, I remain,

Fraternally yours,
"Tramp" Press Sec.
J. W. Hillman.

Hornell No. 92.

As our Press Secretary is sick, I will try my luck at slinging some ink, for the benefit of the absent Brothers.

We are all working but one and he is daubing a little paint for his meal ticket, until things pick up a bit.

Both Telephone Companies are very quiet here, only working an exchange force.

Both companies have new buildings here, but one is still in their old quarters.

The local company laid some underground conduit this summer for a starter. There has been less doing in this section this year than I ever remember of before. I guess they are waiting to see what the wireless people are going to do.

Well, as my voltage is low, I will shut down for repairs. Regards to all absent Brothers, I remain,

Yours fraternally,
CHAS. R. HARRISON,
Rec. Sec.

Jacksonville No. 100.

To all members of the Brotherhood, take warning—Steer clear of the "land of flowers," especially Jacksonville. Pay no attention to advertisements for wiremen or linemen. There are plenty of men here now and a union man has very little chance. If you have plenty of money you can spend it. Board is high, rents high, wages low. Not a fair shop in this town. If a man gets broke and tries to bum a ride on a freight train and is caught he is given from 30 to 60 days manual training in our turpentine camps; on the first day he is employed he is presented with a watch and chain—watched all day and chained at night. So, Brothers, don't come south, stay by your own firesides. Shovel snow and cut Florida from your traveling list. But if you will come and take a friend's advise, buy a return ticket. Bring your own money with you, and be sure and bring a clean green traveling card, and when you land, hunt up your Brother

union men, and deposit your card and be a man with a principle. There are lots of men who came south and go to work with scabs and traitors and deny their union. Be men. Show your colors. Don't s-c-a-b while south and pass for union men north. Come, if you will, but don't grumble if you get the worst of it. Again I say stay away from Florida; if you must come be prepared for the worst. Don't take any stock in advertisements. We will be doing business some day and will then call you south.

Fraternally,
South 100.

Boston No. 104.

I wish to call your attention to a certain difficulty that exists at the present time in relation to traveling brothers who refuse to deposit their card in the nearest Local Union to which they are working as the Constitution prescribes.

The trouble can be traced to the fact that at the present time there is no mutual understanding between the many Locals paying sick benefits, providing for the payment of benefits to a brother who is working on a traveling card should he become incapacitated through sickness or disability. For instance: I, a member in good standing in Local Union No. 104, take a traveling card and deposit it in some Local that also pays sick benefit. After depositing traveling card I am taken sick. I apply for sick benefit and am informed that I am obliged to be a member of that particular Local a certain length of time before I am eligible for sick benefits notwithstanding that I am in good standing in the General Office and the Local I took traveling card from.

You'll agree with me that in the event of such a thing happening that I would have just grounds for complaint.

As Business Agent, I meet a good many brothers whose card is in other Locals which constitutionally should be in Local No. 104, and they invariably meet me with the question: "Shall I receive sick benefits immediately upon depositing my card?" I am obliged to tell them that our By-Laws does not provide for immediate payment of sick benefits to a brother depositing his card should he be taken sick upon which they inform me that they think it an injustice and decline to deposit their card.

Don't you think the General Office should have some jurisdiction over the regulation of sick benefits in Local Unions? In my opinion there should be a clause in the Constitution covering the matter.

Probably some brothers will say that a member is obliged to deposit his card wherever he may find work. That may apply to those Locals that control the trade situation in their city or town.

but where it is otherwise, it is generally pretty hard to convince a man that he loses certain benefits or privileges from the mere fact that he is obliged to travel to find work.

I should like to hear from other brothers regarding this question as I do not think it is peculiar to any particular district but applies to all Locals in the Brotherhood. With that end in view I respectfully ask that you will give this letter publication in the next issue of the WORKER. With greetings to yourself and all brothers, I am,

Yours fraternally,

E. B. CONNORS.

Rock Island No. 109.

As I have not written a letter for some time I will drop a line to let all the brothers know that No. 109 is still alive and doing well. We add one more to our circuit about every meeting night.

Bro. Jas. Dalner, our Financial Secretary, is out of town taking treatment for injuries he received by falling from a pole eight years ago.

I am trying to fill his place the best I can but two weeks ago I got in touch with a 2200 volt wire and burnt my hands pretty bad so you must excuse a short letter.

Work has been plenty here the past summer but it don't look so good for the winter. The White company who have been doing the most of the construction work in the three cities are about through with their contract. The Independent Gas and Light company will be ready to give work to quite a number of fixers as soon as the weather will permit in the spring. They have a few poles unloaded and expect to build one main lead this fall but won't be able to give employment to many of the brothers before spring as they have four linemen working at present. The men in charge of the work are both card men from St. Louis, Brother Frank and Brother Cline; they brought a couple of other brothers with them from St. Louis. I don't remember their names, but they are all good fellows and Union men. It is at present an eight hour job, \$3.00 and car fare.

We have about 60 members in good standing, good card men, and will say we have at least 10 good Union men who are not afraid to put their shoulder to the wheel and help keep the machine running. If our card men were all good Union men and take the interest they ought to in our Union Labor Movement, we might have the best organized town in the country and be receiving the top wages, but when the linemen have to work for \$3.00 per day on high tension wires, work everything hot, ask for rubber gloves you get layed off, take all their

own risks, you must know what voltage wires you are working on and be responsible for what the foreman forgets about.

We have to loose all bad weather if we get hurt we loose the time and if we insist on getting time for while we are hurt we may loose our job, but we can't expect to better our condition very fast till we make up our minds to all be Union men. Get in the harness and all pull together and be brothers, homeguards, floaters and all, if we don't each one help ourselves we find it slow progress for the few to try to better conditions for so many.

Yours, for more Union men at heart,

NEWTON TYRREL, Financial Secretary.

Denver No. 121.

Well, brothers, here I am again for No. 121 of Denver, Colo. Will try and say a few words for the WORKER, and brothers at large, and try and do my duty, as I think more of the Press Secretaries should.

Well, a few of the boys that was here with the Light in La Junta (where I am writing this from), including myself got our lights put out, or in other words got through, so they have 2200 here now in part of the town only as the rest was left direct current. But a couple of us got on with the Postal a few days and a couple of stick walkers that happened to light in town, as this is a division of the bum Santa Fe R. R.

I am not very well posted as to work in Denver, but I got a letter from one of the brothers and he spoke of nothing new in that line.

Well brothers, and sister Locals, I see by the September WORKER that there are some sixty Locals in arrears. Well that will never do. Am sorry to find that one of them is in Ohio. See some as far back as 1903. I am glad to know that none of the Locals that I have had my card in are in arrears. And will say right now, if I was to travel I would not put my card in any of those Locals mentioned in the September WORKER. As things look now I will be in line soon.

Sister Locals and brothers you must wake up. I hope you are not ignorant of the fact that none of the brothers that belong to these Locals in arrears, if they should happen to pass to that great beyond, are not entitled to death benefits.

It is every brothers duty to see if his Local is paid up at the Grand Office. Why we in one way speaking might as well not belong if we can not get what justly belongs to us when the end comes. I do not think there is any excuse for Locals being in arrears. I hope the Locals will get on the right side at the Grand Office. I think if you have only a few members, raise the dues, or levy an assessment; do

something, it looks bad to have so many in arrears. I will drop the subject by saying I hope this will do some good if any brother should happen to read it, and I sincerely hope no harm done. I think by the first of the year we will have an organizer in this field as I think we are badly in need of one. I see a piece in the September WORKER written by our Grand Old President of the A., F. of L. You will find it on page nine. He hits the nail on the head and expresses my sentiments on that subject, as that is our only way to get out and show the world how strong we, the working class are. I heard a brother make the remark that it was a day of rest. All well and good, but it will not hurt any one a few hours in the morning to walk a few blocks. I hope

conditions. Now he had a card in the Musicians and he did not let that lapse, so we told him he could have a card by squaring arrearages with us in full.

We had a visit of Bro. Reid and Bro. P. Myers and had a very interesting lecture from both.

Conditions are getting a little better here for a new scale of wages and in about two months more we are going after them when we get the other 4 or 5 outsiders in.

We have not drawn up a scale or agreement yet, but will advise you as soon as we do. The home guards are all working but its not much of a town for new jobs. Our new Recording Secretary has doubtless sent list of new officers, also we elected Bro. O. D. Remey as delegate to



LOCAL NO. 191, EVERETT, WASH.

those towns that did not have a Labor Day doings will take notice in the future. There was a rat came to town and struck us for a job. We had a place for a card man, but it was "23" for him. He was from Leavenworth, Kans. He came out here R. R., as this is headquarters for all scabs.

Well, I will close once more, hoping this will pass inspection of our Editor, and find space in the WORKER.

Greeting to the I. B. E. W.

HERMAN DEROLPH,
Press Secretary.

Bay City No. 150.

I guess I will try and break into print again, as I am not an officer I will have time to write more often. Wel. No. 150 is able to sit up and we are adding a new memoer now and then, but its a shame the way the brothers let their dues run behind and then expect benefits; we had an ex-brother write us the other day from Chicago and he said he couldn't go to work till he got a card and he wanted us to let him come back in by paying initiation fee of \$5.00 and three months dues so he could work in jurisdiction of a Local with a \$100.00 fee and enjoy their

District Council at Detroit, November 2d.

Well if you can read this, put it in.

With success to all I. B. E. W., I am,
L. U. AUGER, Press Secretary

Denton No. 156.

All inside men are working, but no rush of work; plenty of men to handle all inside work. Several outside men are now idle. A few traveling Brothers have passed through, some secured work, but most of them had to "drift" on down the line. The three light companies are doing nothing but necessary maintenance work. The same can be said of the two telephone companies.

Two interurban roads are building and grading from Ft. Worth to Mineral Wells, but it will be several months to come before they will use any linemen. The street railway in Denton is completed and ready for operation. Altogether, things in our trade seem quiet throughout North Texas. Most all of us feel that we are better union men today than we were yesterday, and in a great many cases this is true. Boys, stick to your union. Think of what would have been the condition of electrical workers today had it not been for

our great I. B. E. W. that has fought so many battles for us during the past sixteen years. Let us all try and be practical, and be so good and kind to each other, and "walk so straight" from day to day that others seeing our good work, will join us and do likewise. The writer has been in the grand old Brotherhood nearly fourteen years, and though helpless and suffering continually, he feels a thrill of joy when contemplating our over forty thousand members, and nearly six hundred locals. Success and best wishes to all members.

Fraternally,

"OLD CHAP," Press. Secretary.

Denton, Texas, Oct. 27, 1907.

Jersey City No. 164.

It is my sad duty to inform the brothers of the I. B. E. W. of the death of our Business Agent P. L. Anthony, who was a silent sufferer for one year and a half with consumption, the deceased brother was one of our staunchest members during our trouble, and charitable to a fault, and the saddest part to us members of Local 164 is the poor heart broken mother, who is now deprived of him on whom rested her fondest hopes. She who had watched over him and sang him sweet lullabies as only a mother can sing them, when he was a child, and who had ever taught him to do the right and shun the wrong, is today left without kith or kin.

No useless coffin enclosed his breast,
Nor in sheet, nor in shroud we wound him;

But he lay, like a brother taking his rest,

With his martial cloak around him.

Few and short were the prayers we said,
And we spoke not a word of sorrow;
But we steadfastly gazed on the face of the dead,

And we bitterly thought of the morrow.

E. Arrington, Recd.-Sec.

Memphis No. 192.

Electrical Workers No. 192, I. B. E. W., held their last meeting in regular session on Thursday October 14, 1907 and was very well attended.

President Craft not being present Bro. Bland filled the chair. There were several brothers that gave us very interesting talks. Bro. Craft gave us a very good talk and some suggestions that were accepted. There was not much business so we closed in due form.

CHAS. R. MCKAY Press Secretary.

Stockton No. 207.

Not having seen a letter in the WORKER from Local No. 207, I will let the boys know that we are still in the ring. We had a little trouble with the American

River Electric Co. The boys were out about four days and the company signed up for \$4.00.

Work is very scarce here now. The Pacific State T. & T. company have not come to life yet. Bro. Kennedy, organizer of the Pacific District Counsel is in town and is doing some good.

I would not advise any of the brothers to come this way if they want to work for jobs are like hen's teeth all over the Pacific coast at the present time.

We have a new set of officers in No. 207 now and I think that you will hear from us more often.

H. Guby, our ex-Financial Secretary has been advanced so high with his company, the American River, that he took out a retiring card. We hated to loose him.

Well, if I write much more the Amperage will get so high that I am afraid it will throw the breaker, so with best wishes to all brothers, I am,

Yours fraternally,

JACK LADD, Recording Secretary.

Atlantic City No. 211.

For the first time in the history of this city the contractors and electricians have come to an amicable agreement.

We held our first meeting last evening and eighty per cent of the men in the city responded and same was opened by President Potter of the District Council.

The routine of the evening was the election of officers for the ensuing term, installation of charter, and obligation and registration of members.

We have certainly got a good thing handed to us when the contractors signed the two year agreement for 45 cents an hour.

Last Thursday evening the city held a carnival in honor of the paving of Atlantic avenue, and the contractors were asked to join in the parade with the business men, but they decided if they could get the electricians to parade, they would have a division of their own.

In response thirty-seven men turned out and marched, and later, the contractors had a banquet prepared for the men at the Continental hotel.

The evening was spent in speech making and several songs were also rendered and among the former were the following speakers:

Mr. Chas. E. Ingalls, President Contractors Association.

Mr. E. P. Allen, Supply Men.

Mr. F. J. McCaffery, Secretary and Treasurer Contractors' Association.

Mr. Geo. S. Howardell, Vice President Contractors' Association.

Mr. H. Potter, President District Council.

Mr. B. Hill, I. B. E. W., Local No. 98.
Mr. A. C. Farrand, Chief City Electrician.
Mr. H. Hurner, Assistant City Electrician.
Mr. H. Alexander, Representing Geo. W. Vallee Electric Co.

After a delightful evening spent the meeting was adjourned with all singing Auld Lang Syne.

WINFIELD COLEMAN, Press Secretary.

Seattle No. 217.

As it is some time since this Local has been heard from, I hope a few lines will be of interest to some of the brothers. Our local is getting along in fine shape, and new applicants coming in right along. We still have a few of the boys left who stayed by No. 217 in its trouble some time ago. It is a pleasure to see how we have grown the past year. We have a good attendance at meetings although there is room for more. We have the same complaint as other Locals in regard to lack of interest.

However, it is human nature and the same in other Lodges, etc. In time of trouble or sickness these chronic meeting dodgers and howlers are sure to wail for themselves. In this connection I wish to give due credit to some of the floating brothers for if it had not been for their help and a few of our faithful members we would not have been where we are today, had we relied on the drones. 'Nuf Ced!

Will state that a large number of traveling cards have been deposited here lately and also some taken out. A number of brothers have arrived from 'Frisco where conditions are not very good. We notice a good deal of advertising has been done throughout the east for mechanics needed on the coast. The idea is plain that it is a ruse to flood the coast with mechanics. Living is high on the coast and when you get here you are a long way from home, so think twice before you blow out this way. Prospects for the winter are not very promising at present as the principal jobs are about completed. We have no calamity howl to make and paid up brothers with the goods we will do the best we can for you if you chance it out this way.

Bro. Morgan has resigned as business agent and gone into the electrical business. Bro. Compton was elected in his place and is making good and covering a good deal of ground. Bro. Schock, for the benefit of the brothers is still Financial Secretary and is kept busy taking in the coin. Bro. J. T. Watts has gone into the Fixture Business. Bro. C. H. E. Williams wields the gavel as president, while the faithful ones remain with him till the meeting ends.

The Seattle Electric Co. is still unfair.

Having exhausted all my subjects, I will conclude with best wishes to all the brothers.

Fraternally yours,
H. WEBER, Press Secretary.

Vancouver No. 213.

As usual I have put off writing to the WORKER until the last moment, but hope this will get there in time.

Local 213 is prospering and for the first time in years we are able to show a good balance in the bank, still we have a kick coming, viz., the question of attendance at meetings. A visitor to our meetings would imagine that we had a very small Local but if he looked up our roll call he would alter his mind—we are not small—numerically. Our smallness lies in the fact that many of us do not think enough of our union to attend its meetings.

At our last meeting we tried to devise some way of getting the boys to attend but after an hours discussion we were back at the point of commencement. We have a clause in our by-laws fining a member twenty-five cents if he fails to attend one meeting a month. The by-law goes on: "Unless a reasonable excuse is furnished." Of course this last clause is necessary, but up to date I haven't seen a man that couldn't furnish a good excuse.

Another thing, some members would absent themselves for so long a period that when presented with their total of fines, they would refuse to pay. You say suspend them, but hold on, this is an open town and if you suspend them what good would it do? None at all, only one more scab to fight and God knows there are enough around without making any more. It's all very well to say live up to your by-laws, but when you haven't got the backing what then? No, sir, there's something radically wrong here, we practically have every man connected with the electrical trade in the local (with the exception of a few rats on the 'phone) and yet we haven't a strictly union job in town. What I mean by that is a closed shop.

Of course, most of the contractors hire nothing but union men, but they are not under any agreement to do so. Still we're plodding along and manage to grab all newcomers and make them ride the goat.

Bro. Halterschwanger, alias Irewire, lately from Tampa, Fla., is doing good work on the 'phone and I venture to say that were all our members of the same calibre we would have nothing but "closed shops."

We are giving a smoking concert (for members only) where several silver tongued orators will try and point out to some of our erring brothers the reason

they should attend all meetings of the Local.

The Oriental question is still the main topic 'round here, although so far, no Orientals have tackled the electrical business I suppose the railroads will be having Japanese linemen in the near future.

Since the first of January of this year, 9,900 Asiatics have landed in Vancouver. The official figures are as follows: Japanese, 7,700; Hindoos, 1,900; Chinese, 300 and still they come. The majority of the Hindoos are destitute and no doubt many of them will perish during the coming winter. The Japs and Chinks all have "cousins" here who no doubt will help their countrymen until they can do a white man out of a job. The capitalists cry here is "More laborers, more laborers" and at the present time there are hundreds of idle men walking the streets and not from choice either.

The most conservative of men admit that something has got to be done to stop this Oriental influx but once they make this admission they think their task is finished and calmly lay back and let the other fellow do the agitating.

If resolutions will help, an Oriental would soon be a curiosity around here but personally I have little faith in resolutions and none that have been made have amounted to a row of beans up to date.

However, our Anti-Asiatic League has been doing good service and may in the future arrive at some solution of the problem, but unless they do it pretty soon I'm very much afraid that the Orientals will form an Anti-White League and put them out of business.

Yours fraternally,

W. E. MANNING.

Birmingham No. 227.

Well, as we haven't been heard of in some time I will try to write a few lines but don't think for one moment that we are not doing business right along. We would have had a letter before now but our Press Secretary has joined the navy but we will try to get one in each month now if I have to write them myself.

Well we are still enlarging our fold right along. We have taken in about 15 new members last month, I believe and we are still after them. We hope to have every man in the business in our fold in a short time. We hope to get it here so that a man can't work here without a card and we hope to see all the other Locals do the same in the south. I don't advise any brother to come here just now for we are full up and have good brothers here that can't get work at all for there is no work here just now.

The Southern Bell is working a few men here now but won't last long so if

you see any brother coming this way why stop him and tell him that there is nothing doing here and we will let all the brothers know when work opens up here but we are not expecting it to open up until spring if then. We have a few traveling brothers here but can't get work for them, nothing doing, so brothers don't forget.

Yours fraternally,

J. E. BURTON.

East Mauch Chunk No. 244.

A letter from local union No. 244 no doubt, will be a surprise to some of the Brothers, and if not, it will be to our Journal.

We are just about holding our own with the exception of a dozen or more Brothers in arrears. We were having a poor attendance all summer at our meetings, although we only met once a month. Some of the Brothers think we should meet twice a month and perhaps they would not forget to come around, which I think we should.

Base ball season is about over, as the biggest majority of our members are ball players—would-be—same as myself. Think of it when a crowd of electrical workers will engage in games on the date that their Local meets, and expect a few others to run the thing, and thing as long as I have got my button on my coat I am O. K. We have quite a few linemen, signalmen and apprentices that we are trying to get in line with the assistance of our organizing committee, which has been appointed at our last regular meeting. We have offered a neat little prize for the member that brings in five members before the new year 1908. Now let us get together and boom Local Union No. 244 up in line. We cannot get too many.

If our Press Secretary reads this I hope he will let me hear about it, then we will hear from him.

We expected Brother H. W. Potter, President D. C. No. 3 with us this last meeting until we got a telegram stating he could not be with us on account of sickness. I think it time to ring off; if I escape the waste basket I may try again.

G. MUMMEY, R. S.

Charleston No. 256.

Hello, Hello, a lot are in here or are we not, we are, and doing business the best we know how. We have quite a good many new faces in our lodge rooms now as the home telephone company is rebuilding their plant here and we have been taking care of all the idle Brothers that came this way and they must have the goods on them if they want to light on this job. It is not a very big job here, but I think it will last the winter if the weather will permit and I must

say that the companw done our Brothers one good turn and it was through our Superintendent, Mr. H. Beatty, who has charge of the job, and who is a prince among men to work for if there ever was one. The boys were getting \$2.50 straight time for nine hours and they asked for for an increase of 25 cents on the day making it \$2.75, and as I above stated, through Mr. Beatty, they got it without a bit of trouble, and did not lose a minute getting it, and many thanks to Mr. Beatty for what he has done for us. Now, Brothers, if we had just a few more men like him to work for us there would be less trouble in this country and our future would look much brighter for us and our roads not so hard to travel.

We have asked permission to open our charter and when we do get her open we will drag in a few of them around here and will make our treasury look a little better. There are quite a few around here who have not got cards and so we are going to give them a chance to show their hand and if they do not come in then it will go to show that they still have their yellow streak with them yet.

I am very sorry to state at this writing that we have had removed from our midst our late Brother A. D. Withrow, who came in contact with a high tension wire on the 9th of October, and the burn on the left foot was so bad that it was necessary to amputate the limb below the knee and that was the last of him, for on the 16th of October he died and it was a hard blow to our local, for he was a loyal Brother, a willing worker and always ready to aid a needy Brother. He was buried out in the country on the 18th and the local all turned out to his funeral, and we hired hacks enough to his funeral to take care of all that went.

That is one thing Brothers, that we never know when it is coming, so take warning and see that your due book is stamped for every month as it rolls around. Never forget when the first of the month comes and then go to your local and pay your dues and then you know you are safe for that month and keep doing that and you will never be behind on the financial secretary's books.

Well, Brothers, as this is the first time that this local has been heard from through our JOURNAL for some time, and as I was temporarily appointed press secretary I think I have done my duty for the first time, and as the line is busy I will have to ring off for this time.

Wishing success to all our Locals and Brothers over the country, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

THE KID.

Oakland No. 283.

A few lines from Local No. 283 to inform the members that we are still keep-

ing up the good work. We are having good attendance at meetings and every thing is running nicely along. I wish to inform members who are thinking of coming to this coast that the inducements are not not very great for at this writing we have an abundance of men and a great many are idle at present. I was in hopes that there would be a great deal of work going on here this winter but for some reason the companies do not start any big jobs. The Pacific Tel. & Tel. company are not doing any construction work to speak of and the Home 'Phone company in Oakland, the Light company have been working a large number of our members all summer, but this company have reduced the men so that at this writing there is nothing in sight. The Home 'Phone company are doing work in San Francisco on the underground conduit but have started no other work as yet and all indications point to them doing no line work before next spring.

Now brothers these are the facts as I find them but remember we have no big fence around any of the jobs here and you can use your own pleasure about coming here.

Now, Mr. Editor and brothers, I am more than pleased to state that the Local No. 157 trouble has been settled and all former members of No. 157 are back in the I. B. There has been a reorganization in San Francisco and all outside electrical workers have gone into Local No. 537, which was formerly the Cable Splicers local. On Monday night, Oct. 21, No. 537 held a meeting and the members of No. 151 and No. 564 transferred into Local No. 537 and it certainly done one's heart good to see the large number of I. B. E. W. men who were at this meeting and everything went along harmoniously, no wrangling of any kind. They certainly are a good bunch of I. B. men in S. F. and I for one am glad to see them all in under the one charter. Local No. 151 was conceded the banner outside Local of the I. B. in the past, but I miss my guess if Local No. 537 does not far eclipse it in the future if the members will all remain together which I hope they will.

I will also state that there is every prospect of the No. 6 trouble being settled in the next few days; if this is done the electrical workers will be in good shape in and around San Francisco. You are aware that P. H. McCarthy is the nominee for mayor on the Union Labor ticket so it is to his interest to have all Labor disputes adjusted, hence the settlement with No. 6.

The Pacific District Council will hold its convention in Sacramento beginning November 11, next, and we look forward to having some good work done at this convention.

Brothers, having stated what news I

am conversant with, I will close by wishing all members every success in the future.

Faternally,

HUGH MURRIN, Press Secretary.

Poughkeepsie No. 296.

Well, as the month slips by the boys are looking for a letter from No. 296. Well, things are running along smooth here. All the boys are working but this is a poor place to come to look for work for the companies are not putting on any more men but any brother coming this way, stop in and see us but he wants to have a good paid-up ticket or he need not come around; if he is all right and got a good card he is all to the good.

Here, brothers, that is one thing we should look out for that is our due book. See that the right number of stamps is in it. Don't wait until you get out of work and then come around and ask how much you owe. The job you are on you might not have to have a card, but the next one that may be the first thing they ask you for and if you are five or six months behind what would you say or how would you feel.

Brothers, let us all put our shoulders to the wheel and keep moving it around and when we come to a spoke that is out get hold of him and when you get him close the circuit.

Brothers we have changed our meeting nights from the first Tuesday of each month to the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. We meet twice a month instead of once. We meet at 648 Washington street. Now brothers, don't forget the meeting place and night; the more comes to the meeting the better the business goes on for what one don't think of the other will. Well, I guess I will close for this time.

Best wishes to the Brotherhood, I remain,
Yours,

B. SMITH, Press Secretary.

Fort Smith No. 346.

Just a few words to let the brothers know that we are doing things the right way. We are getting new members all the time; have two for initiation next meeting night and several new "prospects."

Bro. L. C. Styles took out a traveling card in September. I will say that Bro. Styles is worthy the "gland hand" of any brother, for he is a friend to be proud of. Can also say the same of Bro. G. F. Moore, who left us about the same time.

The Bell company is going ahead very briskly with their construction work here (a few card men on the job). The other companies are not doing anything now.

Inside work is picking up here but do

not think that Inside men are in demand at the present.

The Light is going to put in some new machinery this winter and am sure by that that there is something in sight for our craft.

If any floating brothers come by old Ft. Smith, we would be glad to have them call at Labor Hall, corner 5th and Gas avenue on any Tuesday night.

Yours fraternally,
A. M. BROWN, Press Secretary.

Calgary No. 348.

Hello, brothers! As Press Secretary I will endeavor to do my duty and tell a little of our experience, which may act as a warning to other Locals that are careless in following the Constitution:

I wish that the words "Stick to the Constitution" were written in big black letters and hung up in the meeting room. One cause of our trouble is that the trustees in the past did not study and act on Article XXVIII, Section IX—Duties of Trustees, and perhaps the blame can be also laid on the members for not getting up and persisting that the trustees do their duty and if they fail why elect new trustees. At present we have a pretty good set of officers, but when the books were taken over by the present secretaries and examined they were in such shape that not much information could be gathered, but found that a large sum of money was gone somewhere that could not be accounted for. As there did not seem to be much proof as to who had the money, no written charges were made.

About all the difference I notice between the east and west is that the members here are coming in and going out so much that we are continually replacing vacant offices and another thing is that I have seen men come out west here with little or no experience and in a month or two get journeymen's wages. Then of course we have got to take them in.

We had the largest and grandest parade on Labor Day here that Calgary has ever seen, every man has a card. It was also graced by the presence of the Right Honorable J. J. Reid, V. P. Wish he was a member of this Local and present for a few months.

Bro. B— reminds some of us of Christianity. The other night when he advocated that we should forgive and reinstate members that appear to have sinned against the Local badly on the grounds that we all sin more or less and that we can't afford to have journeymen on the outside. He gave a very brilliant and oratorical address on the subject.

We are fortunate in having several very fluent speakers. At times we can fairly

feel the floor shake and the windows rattle with their tremendous eloquence.

I would not advise brothers coming here as the capitalist in order to make labor cheap here have advertised so extensively that there is plenty of labor at good wages that we have quite a few men idle here now. B. W. DRESSER,
Press Secretary.

Allentown No. 366.

As our Press Secretary has neglected a letter for the WORKER, I thought I had a few spare moments for same. Work here could be much better, although most all brothers are working. Would not advise any floaters seeking work to come here.

Since our last letter we have enabled to take in some of our fellow-workers into the I. B. I think the brothers here should exert themselves a little more in building up this Local. The task then would be more easy in getting these outsiders into the fold. No. 366 is going along fairly well since Labor Day, but I must make this statement: that is, the meetings should be better attended. Our members should take more interest in the Local affairs, the attendance at some of the meetings is discouraging, so brothers, don't forget that it is your duty to be there. Don't think that because your dues are paid that is all; there is much more required of you.

I am glad to say that Local No. 366 though small in number were in line in the Labor Day parade. We had in line also Local No. 91 of Easton. There being no parade in that city, they decided to be with the bunch.

This Local extends to No. 91 many thanks for participating with us, as all the brothers here appreciated their presence. I hope that these few lines will bring better results in general, let us work hand in hand and not be like idle drones but get down to a business standpoint.

Hoping that when the year of 1908 dawns in the great Brotherhood that the brothers here will use their efforts and make it more successful than we have in the past.

With best wishes and success to the Brotherhood, I am, Fraternally yours,
CHAS. HOFFMAN.

Billings No. 532.

Billings is now, and has been for the last two years extensively advertised throughout the east and northwest, and as a consequence people have flocked here from all parts of the country, in particular from Missouri.

Capital has been attracted here by the numerous business and commercial op-

portunities. An electric light and power plant operated by water power has been finished this year having a total output of fifteen hundred K. W. or 2,000 horse power. A street car system will be built within the next year as a franchise has just been granted the company. And with two telephone companies in the field with approximately 3000 phones in use, and two electric light companies there ought to be work here for a good many of the boys.

The Rocky Mountain Company Bell Telephone Company which take in the four States—Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and Utah, are still on the unfair list, and through their attorneys have secured an injunction from the United States District Court of Montana, prohibiting the striking linemen from interfering with scabs and from boycotting or in any way trying to dissuade people from using the service of the company. But the service that people are getting from the scab operators is doing more harm than any other cause. There is not a business house in the State of Montana that caters to the working man or home trade, that has a Bell Phone in their place of business, or if so they are not using same and do not allow others to do so. So that practically the business of the Rocky Mountain Bell is at a standstill, with the possible exception of the long distance toll lines, where not reached by other Independent lines.

The Mutual or Independent Telephone Co. are building a new exchange and when finished they will install an automatic system; at present they have a common battery system in use.

The boys are all feeling happy and all working. The Mutual and Light companies are paying \$3.75 and eight hours and inside wiremen are getting \$4.50 and eight. This is a mixed Local and we have some great times. We are getting stronger every day and will in time make this a closed town. At present we are "it" and can do as we want to, with regard to traveling brothers not carrying a card and if the work holds out here and the inside men stick we will be all right.

Some time ago we had some trouble about our brothers doing contracting and not holding up the prices, as he would take contracts at a figure that the other contractors could not compete with, and hire men at \$4.50. Of course he would do his own work and worked night and day and at all times, so the complaint is, but at present things are adjusting themselves and we have let him and the contractors fight it out.

I would advise that traveling wiremen keep away for the present, at least until next spring, when there will be lots of work in that line. And trusting that I

have done my duty, as I have just been elected press secretary, I am,

Fraternally yours,

J. DONALD LEWIS.

Oakland No. 537.

Some very important events have taken place in and near San Francisco in an electrical way since my last letter.

The first part of the month after every other possible means had been exhausted, the Pacific Council called a strike on the City Electric company, and its affiliated corporations, which operate in various parts of the state. The cause was the refusal of the manager of the new corporation to sign the agreement presented to him or to listen to a compromise. He claimed that he would be able to get plenty of electrical workers and expressed himself as believing that the majority, if not all of the men (most of whom were members of Local No. 151, whose charter was revoked sometime ago) in his employ would remain at work even though the Brotherhood did call a strike. In this belief he found he was mistaken, for when it became known that the job was unfair all of the employees laid down their tools.

The result of the strike was soon felt for three days later the agreement was signed and now our members are working under good conditions on that job.

This loyalty to the Brotherhood helped greatly in bringing about a reconciliation between Locals Nos. 151 and 564, and as a result of the efforts of Local 537 to bring this about, our Local now has several hundred members in place of less than a hundred as before the consolidation.

On Monday last all of the members of the two Locals deposited their cards in No. 537, and the family quarrel of San Francisco was most amicably settled. Upon opening the meeting Monday, President Allison reminded those present that Locals 151 and 564 were of the past and asked that the hatchet be buried and any and all grievances be forgotten. The result was that absolutely no reference was made by any member and harmony and good feeling now prevails.

San Francisco is now an excellent place for traveling workers without cards to cancel on their visiting list for all jobs are clean and operated under agreements with the union.

The trouble No. 6, the inside local has had for some time is now in a fair way to be settled honorably to the Brotherhood.

The consolidations of Nos. 151, 564 and 537, has of course, entailed a great deal of work but the benefit to be derived is worth many times the exertion and ener-

gy necessary to accomplish it and No. 537 can justly be proud of the service it has been able and so willingly rendered the brotherhood.

C. H. McConoughy formerly of Pittsburgh, Pa., has been chosen business agent and every one agrees that the selection is an excellent one. Mac is a good fellow and while made of fighting material, uses good judgment, and does not jump at conclusions or act too hastily.

The new headquarters are at the Roshe building, at 15th and Mission streets, San Francisco.

AUSTIN M. MCINTIRE,
Press Secretary.

Ft. Dodge No. 554.

Just a few lines to let the boys know No. 554 is still doing business and gaining in strength all the time. It is with profound regret that I announce the death of Bro. Clarence J. Henry on September 7th.

Bro. Henry was connecting a transformer and in so doing received 1100 volts, killing him almost instantly. The remains were taken to Manchester, Ia., for interment accompanied by Bro. Frank Tedford, the Local presenting a beautiful wreath of flowers.

In the death of our brother, the Local loses one of its most popular, as well as faithful and earnest workers.

Bro. Henry had not been a member long enough to entitle him to the death benefits.

Work has been very good here the past summer, all the boys working steady and will continue for a while yet, but not enough to induce many of the boys to come this way.

Bro. Robt. Brien has been with us nearly all summer as well as "Scrappy" Williamson who has made a good many "hits" among the boys.

I will close, wishing all I. B. E. W.'s success, I remain, Fraternaly,

J. M. WHITE.

Pasadena No. 560.

Local No. 560 sends greetings to the rest of the electrical fraternity, but perhaps the rest of the fraternity don't know who No. 560 is, so as press correspondent I will try to enlighten them.

No. 560 is an inside Local in Pasadena, Calif., one of the prettiest spots on earth. We have been organized about four months and have been trying since that time to get enough of the wiremen into the Local, so as to gain a respectable hearing for an agreement, which is now in the hands of the contractors awaiting their consideration.

We have about 25 inside men in Pasadena, 18 of which are now in the Local, while those on the outside are only in

'need of a little boost to land them on our side of the line.

Labor Day was quite an event in Pasadena amongst Union men, nearly all Unions having a strong representation in the marching line. After the parade a speech was delivered in Library Park by Stanley B. Wilson, of Los Angeles, to an audience of about two thousand.

The speech was full of good meat and offered not one apology for Unionism in its past or present state of development, and I think strengthened the spinal column of many a formal Union man.

It not only strengthened him as a member of organized labor but made him feel proud that he was a laboring man, a worker of the world and not a rider on the backs of his fellow men.

This is the greatest feature of the work of organized labor in that it teaches a human being that he is the highest development of nature and not a poor worm of the dust without rights or privileges.

We must redeem him from the teachings of the past which have so loaded him down with the sins of the world back to, and including the original sin of Adam and Eve, and with the thought of his own insignificance, that it is only at rare intervals that men sign enough faith in their own worth to stand erect and proclaim that "a man's a man, for a' that," and that no man is great or wise enough to control another man's means of life, liberty and happiness.

I think that every time that we can induce a laboring man to parade as such, and to listen to a good talk that inspires him with a consciousness of his true value as a worker, we have started a ball rolling that will not stop until the time comes when a man will be ashamed to take a living from the world without returning an equivalent for that which he has received.

P. H. QUINN.

Tucson No. 570.

As our brothers have never heard of Local No. 570, I will endeavor to write a few brief lines. We are a new local composed of linemen and inside wiremen and have a membership of about 20 members.

We have only been organized about six months and we are doing very good although work is a little slack here and wages low, but we hope to make better soon.

With best wishes, I remain the same,

Yours fraternally,

H. B. WEUK.

Portsmouth No. 575.

If you have any spare space in the November WORKER please give it to No. 575. At last we have succeeded in getting a charter at Portsmouth, Ohio, and the boys are working hard to gain every ben-

efit it furnishes. I don't mean sick and death benefits because it won't pay a man to get sick or hurt till after January 1, 1908. The town is very well organized and we expect to have the best along the river before very long. We were given a choice position in the Labor Day parade which was a hummer, and were highly complimented on our good appearance on such short notice, as we had no organization until the middle of August. We are well represented at the Steel Mill, R. R. Terminals and Light Company's works and the Portsmouth Tel. Co. In all we are about thirty-four strong and all good fellows. Guess that ain't goin' some for a three months old Local. The Portsmouth Tel. Co. has signed an agreement with its employees, in which it recognizes us as a Union. This agreement runs till January 1, 1908, after which we expect to get a better one. The Central Union boys have as yet failed to come in but we hope to line them up in our bunch in the near future. Its only natural for the C. U. boys to be slow, for the boss might not like the green goods.

Every thing is quiet here, but we got notice today to send all good men, who come floating around, up to Charleston, W. Va. We meet the second and fourth Mondays of each month at Central Labor hall (over Baker's Shoe Store), and all visiting brothers with the goods are cordially invited to meet with us. We have a good bunch of officers, for beginners, and have good meetings.

Our officers are: President, L. L. Short; Vice President, C. Servis; Recording Secretary, C. W. Kugelman; Financial Secretary, G. W. Oakes; Treasurer, J. T. Gerlach; 1st Inspector, P. E. Bope; 2d Inspector, C. P. Taylor; Foreman, L. arnock; Trustees, F. J. Gerlach, C. P. Taylor.

I guess I better turn off the juice or the editor will think I want all his space.

Yours fraternally,

C. W. KUGELMAN.

Hello Hugh McKenna and Fred Livingston. What do you know?

El Paso No. 583.

Local No. 583 is happy to inform you that she is just beginning her second month of existence with very bright prospects. All the optimism expressed in our former letter so far seems more than justified. Our prediction that we would have at least sixty members before the charter closed was correct. The charter closed October 27, with sixty-nine members. We have four new members to initiate next meeting and two or three applications pending.

Nine of our members have left the city and we have received the cards of J. Karthals, of No. 150; J. D. Evans, of No. 250; J. C. Bippus, of No. 306; Elmer

Davis, of No. 475; A. W. Johnson, of No. 159; A. Albright, Walter Obrien and Julius Mulendorf, all of No. 60; B. Swank of No. 121; Fred Preston, of No. 18, and S. S. Burgey, of No. 83. Brother Mulendorf came here about six months ago with an apprentice card from No. 60. He has been doing journeymen's work here and on passing a satisfactory examination was issued a journeymen's card in this Local. We have enacted a set of by-laws and elected on E. B. and are getting our Local down to a business basis as fast as we can, but we find that there is an enormous lot of work to attend to. Inside workers still find plenty of work here but there are several idle linemen. Last month we promised to tell you something more about the squabble between the South Western Tel. Co. and the City Council. The difficulty is not entirely settled yet, but the company has (at the request of the council) raised the operators salary to \$45.00 per month, and have posted notice that beginning with November 1 linemen shall receive three dollars per day to be paid weekly instead of \$70 per month as heretofore. So you see our city council is not all together in the grasp of the octopus.

With regards and best wishes for the success of all electrical workers, I am,

Fraternally,

HENRY BURTON, Press Secretary.

Oakland No. 595.

As Local 595 of Oakland, Cal., is a

young one in the I. B. E. W its members are all old members of No. 6 and have been doing business in this part of the world for a good many years as a sub local. Many of the boys who have made us a call at some time or other will wonder, but we got a charter for ourselves for a very good business reason.

Work here is just fair at present and the winter rains have started so we can look for a little slack time for a while. Our sister Local No. 6 of San Francisco is in a very good way for a settlement of her troubles and we on this side of the bay hope to see No. 6 shine out in big letters by this time next week. I guess it is not for me to tell all of No. 6's good news; I will let them do it themselves as they are big enough and strong enough to do so. Here in Oakland, just six miles from San Francisco, we have a good, strong and healthy Local, one that will grow and one that the I. B. E. W. can be proud of, as our grand president can tell you, one and all. We will try and treat all traveling Brothers as a brother and as one of us. All we ask is that the Brother come here with a good paid-up card; if not, I, as a business agent, will give you a good run for your back dues, fines and assessments.

Well, I will see how this looks in the WORKER.

Yours fraternally,

R. P. GALE.

Business Agent and Press Sec'y.

GRASP THE JAPANESE NETTLE.

The official explanation of the anti-Japanese riots in British Columbia is nonsense. It may be true that "American labor unions" instigated the outbreak. But it does not follow that the attitude thus manifested is contrary to public sentiment. In fact, the reasonable conclusion is just the opposite.

The plain truth is that English speaking white men, whether their allegiance be to the Stars and Stripes or the Union Jack, do not care to have any large number of yellow men in any country where the white men have settled, made their homes and come to regard the land as their own.

They do not want too many yellow men about them. They will not live with yellow men.

This feeling of racial antagonism, prejudice or what you will, is not beautiful. To entertain it is inconsistent with certain humane sentiments and contrary to the spirit of religion. But, as we do not sell all we have and give to the poor, so we are not inclined to give way in our own country to those whom we do

not like and who at home plainly dislike us.

Probably it would be more consistent with many ideals for the white men of the Pacific Coast to move out and leave the country to the poor of Asia, who need it, but they will not do it, neither will the rest of the nation ask them to.

In spite of all the preaching of a minority who are intellectually detached from the facts of life, the white men of the West will try to fight back the yellow horde.

Governments are instituted to deal with facts that move majorities rather than with sentiments of intellectual minorities. The longer the settlement of the Japanese question is delayed the more trouble it will cause, because there will be more Japanese in America. The way to safety is firmly to grasp the nettle.

The men of this country are sure that they own it. So are the men of British America sure that they own that country. It is high time that the governments concerned faced their responsibility and quit playing with fire.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

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THE COST OF LIVING.

In the Independent Mr. Albert Britt discusses "The Actual Cost of Living." The title itself implies that much that is said on this subject is misleading, and this is what the writer undertakes to show.

As an introduction Mr. Britt mentions the fact that not long ago the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics said that in 797 stores in Boston 45,482 debtors, or about 7½ per cent of the population of the city, were on the hopeless list, and they owed over half a million dollars. It is not to be believed that all these people are dishonest; they have simply made a failure in the struggle to make both ends meet.

In two bulletins issued last year by the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor there was a comparison of the cost of living and average incomes in 1905 and in the period 1890 to 1899. One bulletin gave prices in a number of classes of articles, showing an advance in all those enumerated over the former period of 15.9 per cent. A latter bulletin shows the average earnings per week to be 14 per cent higher in 1905 than in the period from 1890 to 1899. This left the cost of living about 2 per cent in the lead.

Mr. Britt does not think that this tells the whole story. It does not show how large a part of our annual incomes are ferent items. He endeavors to supply expended for one or another of the dif- this deficiency from figures furnished by the Bureau of Labor at Washington. Households to the number of 25,466, with about five to the family, have been canvassed and show this result: The average annual income per family is \$751.34; average expenditure, \$689.61; differences,

\$61.73. Of the expenditures .11483 are for rent, \$37.53 for fuel, \$97.39 for clothing, \$305.32 for food, and \$148.73 for all other purposes. In 1906 the family spent \$71.28 more for food than in 1896, \$18.32 more for clothing than in 1897, and \$7.99 more for fuel and light than in 1894.

Dun's Index figures a considerable increase of 1906 over 1905. In Dun's Index, however, rent is not included, nor are taxes or the principal and interest on mortgages. The report of the Bureau of Labor for April of this year shows that during 1906 commodities to the number of 258 had reached a higher point than in any other year since 1890. The average was 5.6 per cent above 1905, and 36.5 per cent above 1897, the year of lowest prices since 1890. Out of 258 commodities only two showed decrease since 1905, and these were farm products and drugs. It is objected to the bulletin of the Department of Commerce and Labor dealing with wages that they are translated into terms of food only, to the neglect of other expenses. The results reached are therefore attacked, and it is pointed out that Dun's Index figures give 50 per cent value to the food products to 25 of the Labor Bureau. Mr. Francis B. Forbes, in the publications of the American Statistical Society, has taken the Labor Bureau increase in the Index figure of 29.2 and Dun's of 38.7 since 1897, and has taken a mean between them, which he puts at 36.6. Hence Mr. Britt thinks it not excessive to put the cost of living at 40 per cent higher for the end of the decade closing with the present year than it was at the beginning. If he is correct, the expenses of living have increased faster on an average than wages, and this is what he claims.—Courier-Journal.

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In construction it is the same as the No. 30 and 31, but smaller and for driving small screws only.

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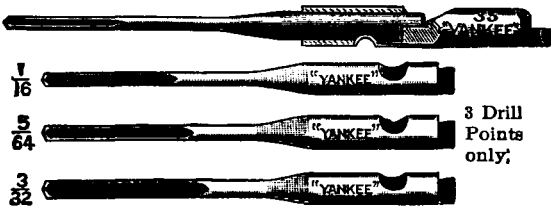
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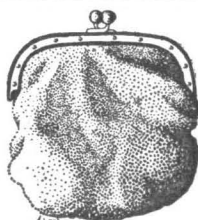
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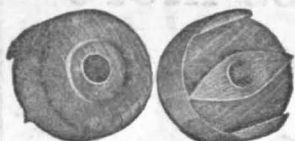
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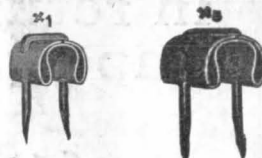


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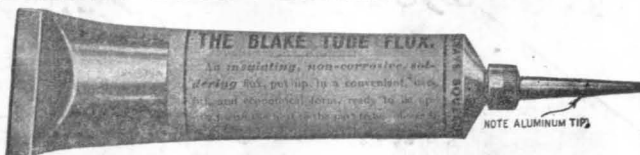
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